

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FRÉDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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THE WOMAN'S BILL.



Chorus of Lord Mayors and Mayors from Birmingham, Bradford, Cardiff, Cork, Derby, Devonport, Dublin, Dundee, Glasgow, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham, Oldham, Preston, Sheffield, and many other towns: "Mr. Asquith, we want to see this Bill carried into law this Session."

CONTENTS.

PAGE	PAGE
Our Cartoon	485
The Outlook	485
"Fanny's First Play" By	487
B. P. L.	487
Getting New Readers	487
Announcements	487
Memorandum of the Conciliation Committee	488
Town and City Councils Support the Bill	488
The March of the Women	489
The Press Boycott	490
Women Constables	490
At the Theatres	490
The Greatest Need of the Twentieth Century	491
G. B. S. and Woman's Sphere. By H. M. D.	492
Susan. By Dora de Boko	493
Fair Play for Our Bill. By Christabel Pankhurst, LL.B.	494
Some American Impressions. By H. Sylvia Pankhurst	495
Treasurer's Note	495
Contributions to the £100,000 Fund	495
Women Teachers at Aberystwyth	496
Cheltenham By-election	496
Facta for Mr. Winston Churchill	496
Some Press Views	497
Our Post Box	497
Campaign Throughout the Country	498
General News	502

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom; to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it; to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

The Conciliation Committee have drawn up a Memorandum with regard to the Woman Suffrage Bill, which is to be introduced into the House of Commons on Friday next, May 5, by Sir George Kemp. This statesmanlike pronouncement, which we print in full

on page 488 of this issue, we commend to the careful consideration of our readers.

The Formation of the Conciliation Committee.

The Conciliation Committee, it will be remembered, was originally formed at the beginning of the Session of 1910 in the hope of bringing to an end the painful struggle of the past four years, which had converted women of honourable character and law-abiding instincts into rebels against authority. It was composed of influential Members of Parliament drawn from all the parties in the State, who had come together with the intention of drafting and carrying into law a Bill extending the franchise to duly qualified women. The Conciliation Bill of 1910 passed its second reading on July 12 by the overwhelming majority of 110 (299 to 189) and but for the obstacles placed in its way by the Government would have become law that Session.

The New Parliament.

The General Election of December last made so little change in the personnel of the House of Commons that when Parliament reassembled in February of the present year the Conciliation Committee was able to meet at once with practically the same members; and a new Bill, the Conciliation Bill of 1911, differing only slightly from that of the preceding year, was immediately drafted. By a stroke of good fortune the first three

places in the ballot all fell to members of the Committee, and the best day available (which, as the Prime Minister had taken all the time up to Easter for Government business, was considered to be May 5) was chosen for the second reading. Sir George Kemp, Liberal Member for North West Manchester, who had won the first place in the ballot, accordingly introduced the Bill.

The Bill of 1911.

The Memorandum of the Conciliation Committee is headed with a list of its members, who, with the exception of the Chairman, the Earl of Lytton, and the Honorary Secretary, Mr. Brailsford, are all members of the House of Commons. They are arranged in groups so as to show the political parties to which they belong. A glance at the list will prove the influential and representative character of the men who are supporting the proposal. The Bill, which will give the vote to women householders, reads as follows:—

A BILL TO CONFER THE PARLIAMENTARY FRANCHISE ON WOMEN.

- (1) Every woman possessed of a household qualification, within the meaning of The Representation of the People Act (1884), shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the county or borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.
- (2) For the purposes of this Act a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be registered as voters in the same Parliamentary borough or county division.
- (3) This Act may be cited as The Representation of the People Act, 1911.

The Memorandum, after explaining the effect of the slight alterations which have been made in the Bill since last year, proceeds:—"These modifications have been made with the assent of all the members of the Conciliation Committee, which is unanimous in its desire to make the Bill a settlement that every sincere advocate of woman suffrage may accept without the fear that it may create any artificial party preponderance among women voters."

Votes for Women Householders.

The household suffrage, which this Bill confers on women, is at once the best understood and the most democratic of all the franchise qualifications. It is, as the Memorandum points out, the one existing qualification which is not the subject of party warfare or the object of party suspicion. It includes only responsible women who bear the full burdens of citizenship; but it makes no distinction between rich and poor. It imposes no property test. A woman who inhabits even a single room, provided she has full control over it, may rank as a householder. The household franchise was in a special sense the creation of the House of Commons, which voted in the peculiar conditions that prevailed in 1867 with little regard to party ties. The credit of conferring it, belonged in almost equal degrees to the daring genius of Disraeli and to the perseverance of the Radical group. There is an historic fitness in the proposal that it should now be extended to women by the concerted action of all parties.

Married Women.

One of the criticisms levelled against the Bill of 1910 was that it conferred the vote upon comparatively few wives and mothers. The explanation of the Committee on this point is at once lucid and convincing:—

The Bill expressly provides that marriage shall not disqualify. If comparatively few married women will be qualified, it is only because they are rarely ratepayers or householders in their own right. An appreciable number, however, will be qualified. In Scotland, where marriage is not, as it is in England, a disqualification for the municipal vote, it is a common practice for men engaged in migratory trades, notably seamen, fishermen, and commercial travellers, to arrange that their wives shall be placed in their stead on the register. In Dundee, for example, nine per cent. of the women-voters who will be qualified under our Bill are married women. But apart from this direct emancipation, the standpoint of the mother and wife will be sufficiently represented by the widow. Of the women voters in Dundee, over 52 per cent. are widows, and only 37 per cent. single women. In all questions affecting children and maternity, the experience, the instincts, and the interests of the widow cannot differ from those of the wife.

It is difficult, therefore, to see how anyone who is really desirous of seeing women enfranchised can take exception to the present Bill on this account.

Rich Women or Poor Women?

Another exceedingly important matter is the question of class representation. As the Bill can obviously only be carried by the combined assistance of Suffragists of all political parties, it ought to be so framed as to leave unaltered the proportions of different classes possessed of the vote. The Conciliation Committee have been at considerable pains to verify the fact that this is actually the case with regard to their Bill. They quote figures which had been previously obtained by the I.L.P. and the Women's Co-operative Guild, which show that from 80 to 90 per cent. of the women enfranchised would be working women, and they add the result of a special canvass conducted in the constituencies of Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchill. In Dundee they found that the middle-class element would be 10.9 per cent., and the working class element 89.1 per cent. In Bangor and Carnarvon they found that the figures would be 25 per cent. and 75 per cent. These proportions are practically the same as those that prevail with regard to the men at present on the Parliamentary Register.

Feeling in the Country.

Whilst Suffragists and Anti-Suffragists, as the result of specially conducted canvasses, have come to entirely opposite conclusions as to the desire of women on the Municipal Register to possess the Parliamentary vote (the questions of the Anti-Suffragists being directed not to the Conciliation Bill but to the question of Adult Suffrage), it is interesting to note that the most important City and Town Councils of the country, who are responsible to women as well as to men, have declared with no uncertain voice in favour of the Bill. These include the Councils of Birmingham, Bradford, Cardiff, Cork, Derby, Devonport, Dublin, Dundee, Glasgow, Hull, Leeds, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham, Oldham, Preston, and Sheffield. The full list is given on page 488. At the same time not a single Council has carried a resolution against the Bill.

The Demand for Facilities.

The Memorandum concludes with a demand that the Government shall grant full facilities during the present

Session for the Bill, and points out that three Cabinet Ministers—Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Birrell and Mr. Runciman—expressed last autumn their personal opinion that this would be desirable. "It is worth recalling," the Memorandum proceeds, "that only nine days were spent upon the Committee stage of the Reform Bill of 1884, with its eleven highly technical clauses, of which the briefest is longer and more detailed than the whole of our Bill. A week ought to suffice for all the stages of our Bill. Next year will probably present a more overloaded legislative programme, and no subsequent year, if the Parliament Bill should be carried, and if the two Houses should chance to disagree, would serve to enable the Bill to be passed into law before the next General Election. . . . The demand is incomparably more and more urgent than any other proposed reform can boast. Women have done enough to prove their zeal and more than enough to merit the attention of Parliament. To exact a further period of agitation from them would be to decree a waste of public spirit and to dissipate energies which women would prefer to spend in constructive work for the public good."

"P.W.W." on the Bill.

The prospects of the Bill were discussed by "P.W.W." in the *Daily News* for Monday last. After remarking that the Bill is excellently backed by members of all parties, he says that it is confidently hoped that the Speaker will allow a division to be taken on the second reading on Friday, May 5. As to the figures, he quotes a majority of 160 as not unlikely, but remarks that a much smaller figure would be sufficiently handsome. In this connection we may remind our readers that in the divisions on the Parliament Bill the Government majority is usually below 100. He then turns his attention to the question of facilities for further stages, and expresses the view that the Government cannot be expected to give any answer until the Parliament Bill is carried through both Houses. He urges as the reason for this delay that in the event of the Lords throwing out the Parliament Bill the Session will immediately come to an end, and all outstanding Bills will die a sudden death. We dissent entirely from this reasoning. As soon as the Parliament Bill is through the House of Commons the Government will have time on its hands, which it will devote to advancing various Government measures. We claim that the Woman Suffrage Bill ought to be allowed to proceed *pari passu* with these Bills. If subsequently the Session is brought to a premature end, and all these Bills are cut off short, the Woman Suffrage Bill will of course share a similar fate; but in that event whatever means are devised for reviving the Government measures in the next Session (which, as we understand, is expected to follow immediately without any interval of time) should also be applied to the Woman Suffrage Bill.

Why not this Year?

On the other hand, we are glad to notice that Mr. Wilson sees clearly the dangers of delay, saying:—

The Government, doubtless, realises that the pressure for facilities, if resisted to-day, will be renewed next year, and it might be well to get the Bill out of the way before that heavy Session commences. In any case, Mr. Asquith's pledge means that Women's Suffrage would have to be faced, if and when the Government handles franchise reform.

He also sees that amendments put in from the Ministerial side extending the scope of the Bill would alienate Tory support, and would alter the measure in such a way that it would no longer be the Bill which has secured favourable resolutions from City and Town Councils.

A Referendum.

He sets out very clearly our objection to submitting the question to a referendum:—

There has been a suggestion that the Bill if carried, should be submitted to a referendum. Apart from the great gravity of any such concession to the referendum, it may be said at once that a vote by men, if adverse, would not in the least meet the women's claim or terminate their crusade. They would regard it as a gratuitous injustice.

And he concludes by remarking that Liberalism should hesitate before alienating the women workers whose services have won so many victories for progress in the past.

Maternity Insurance.

At the Queen's Hall meeting on Monday last, after listening to an interesting speech by Mr. Macnaughten, the audience had the pleasure of hearing Mrs. Pankhurst, who dealt in particular with the scheme of insurance which the Government are preparing. She asked the important question, Is there to be any insurance of mothers? In view of the condition of the people, of the national health, and the rate of infant mortality, she claimed that insurance of maternity was specially urgent. Perhaps men might say that although it might be important it was so expensive. That ought not to be a reason, she said, for refusing to get it done if it was necessary. This was one illustration of the immediate need of women for the Parliamentary vote, for until they possessed it women's point of view would never be duly considered in any scheme of insurance or social amelioration. We reproduce an extract from her speech on page 481 of this issue.

Public or Private Grievances.

An interesting comment upon the attitude of the

Bench towards protests made by men and women Suffragists will be found in the account published in the *Daily News* for Friday last of the trial of a man in Mansfield for publicly thrashing a Councillor in the Market Place. The only defence put forward was that the Council had annoyed the defendant by constantly referring to his bankruptcy and his "unpaid gas bills." In fining him 30s. and costs the Bench expressed the opinion that he had not been properly treated by the Council and that he had received great provocation. They expressed their sympathy with him. For a far slighter offence Mr. Franklin was sentenced, at Bow Street, last December, to six weeks' imprisonment without the option of a fine and no sympathy was expressed for him by the magistrate. The difference would seem to be due to the fact that the Bench can understand and appreciate a private grievance, but utterly fails to recognise the sense of public wrong which prompts such a man as Mr. Franklin to choose the only form of protest which is open to him to express his indignation.

Women Teachers Demand the Vote.

There is no mistake about the spirit of the women teachers. As we anticipated, the defeat by the men delegates of the Suffrage Resolution in the N.U.T. Conference has only made them more determined to win their point. Our readers will learn with interest of the enthusiastic meeting held by them on Thursday evening at Aberystwyth, when Miss Cleghorn made a stirring speech, and a resolution in favour of Woman Suffrage was carried without a dissentient voice. They are determined that next year, unless the vote is already won, the resolution shall be brought before the Conference as a substantive resolution, and women teachers have learnt that they must bestir themselves in their local organisations to secure its passage.

Cheltenham.

Whatever the result of the by-election in Cheltenham, there can be no doubt that the electors have been very much interested in the campaign of the W.S.P.U., and that many votes will be cast to-day against Major Mathias on account of the attitude of the Government towards Woman Suffrage. Those who are not yet convinced that to be voteless is to be politically non-existent, should note the fact that on Tuesday night the Liberals tried what the *Morning Post* describes as the "new experiment" of excluding "women and children" altogether from their mass meeting. We can imagine that some of the women supporters of Major Mathias are beginning to ask themselves whether, after all, self-respect should not precede party allegiance.

Resignation of a Liberal Woman President.

Another president of a Women's Liberal Association has sent in her resignation. Mrs. Homan has written to the Cornish Union of Women's Liberal Associations, regretting that she can no longer remain their president, and giving as her principal reason that she is very disappointed at the attitude of the present Government with regard to Woman Suffrage. This attitude has taken away her enthusiasm for the Liberal party, to which she has always belonged, and for which she has always worked.

Florence Nightingale on Methods.

Some letters from Florence Nightingale, published in the *Nursing Times* of April 15, throw an interesting light on her opinion as to ways of getting reforms accomplished. In reference to the establishment of the Army Medical School, she wrote in April, 1864:—

The War Office seems now willing to listen to some kind of terms. They are frightened; . . . Don't be conciliatory. . . . You may think I am not wise in being so angry. But I assure you when I write civilly, I have a civil letter. And nothing is done. When I write furiously, I have a rude letter. And something is done (not even then always, but only then). . . . I am weary of seeing them break their pledges.

These words, written nearly fifty years ago, will be echoed by Suffragists who have tried civility and are now driven by Government inertia or active opposition, to try—other methods! Suffragists, too, are weary of broken pledges.

A W.S.P.U. shop has been opened at Clacton-on-Sea, and is attracting a great deal of interest.

THE DEPUTATION.

We are still enrolling names for a possible deputation, and many more have been received since last week. The following extracts from letters we have had show what a strong intention exists amongst our members to make a determined protest against any trifling with the Conciliation Bill:—

If we do not become enfranchised after May 5, the W.S.P.U. must revert to militant tactics, much as I dislike the idea of it. Otherwise, Parliament will go on ignoring all the efforts we are making.

When I left England in February, my chief trouble was that I could not be one of the next deputation, as I was afraid it would take place before I got back. Now, however, as it has been delayed, I hope to be home in time for it, if you will be kind enough to put down my name.

I write to say that should a deputation be necessary, I wish to offer my services. I have so long admired the brave women who have gone to prison for the cause, but I have always been prevented from joining them before; now circumstances have altered, and you may depend upon me.

Will you put down my name for the next deputation, if one is necessary? It seems to me that every member ought to come forward now.

We shall be glad if intending volunteers will send in their names to 4, Clements Inn.

"FANNY'S FIRST PLAY":**Who Wrote It?**

Who is the author of "Fanny's First Play"? Most people have an opinion on the question. Nobody is quite sure. If the audience knew the secret, some of the delightful fooling of the epilogue would lose its sharpness of point. Rumour whispers "Bernard Shaw"—whispers it loudly in the boxes and stalls, speaks it audibly in the lounge of the Little Theatre. But Suffragists will find reason from internal evidence in the play to suspect that it was written by a woman. And we should not be surprised, while we should be highly delighted, to hear one day that "Fanny" and "Diana" (of Dobsons) are sisters. It is a bold conjecture. For if the play is not by Bernard Shaw, very warily have the traps been laid to catch the playgoer. But in the action of every one of the women of the play we think we recognise subtle indications that the author or, at any rate, one of the authors (for the play may be a collaboration) belongs to the freemasonry of women. And it is by these indications that the secret, some of us fancy, has been transmitted. It will be interesting to see whether we are right or wrong.

The play, we are warned in the introduction, is not a Play, but a Conversation. Whether or no we concur in this verdict, it is vastly entertaining and stimulating, and wholly enjoyable. The perpetual challenge to all the intellectual and critical faculties intermingles and interchanges so quickly with jest and downright farce that the mind is kept keenly on the alert from start to finish, and one comes home with the sensation of having battled with the waves of the Atlantic, glowing with the shock, and tingling with the sense of being alive. Throughout the play there are innuendoes full of significance to "Militants," though the uninitiated might sit through all the acts until the very end without any idea that allusion was being made to the Suffrage Movement.

Suffragists are working so hard that they rarely get an evening off. But when they do, they could hardly be so entertained and stimulated anywhere as in the Little Theatre, and none better than they will be able to enjoy and appreciate "Fanny's First Play."

E. P. L.**ANNOUNCEMENTS.****Kensington Town Hall, Friday, May 5.**

On the evening of May 5, every Suffragist in the country will be intensely on the *qui vive* as to the result of the Second Reading of the Women's Bill in the House of Commons. The evening papers will be eagerly scanned for Parliamentary news, and readers will naturally be anxious to know what is the significance of the political situation. In order to meet that very natural and legitimate interest, a meeting has been arranged to take place in the Kensington Town Hall at eight o'clock on the evening of May 5, when Mrs. Pankhurst will take the chair, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will make a pronouncement on the political situation, and will outline the programme for the immediate future. Tickets: Stalls, 2s. 6d.; area, 1s.; gallery, 1s. (all numbered and reserved); back area, 6d., should be secured immediately of Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., and from the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Free Meetings.

Owing to the Queen's Hall not being available, the usual Monday meeting will be held for the next four weeks at the **London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, at 3 p.m.** The Pavilion has been recently redecorated, and will prove a pleasant place of meeting. The meeting next week promises to be of exceptional interest, owing to the nearness of the second reading of the Women's Bill, on May 5. A large audience is therefore anticipated at the Pavilion on Monday afternoon, when besides Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B., those present will have the pleasure of hearing Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, who has just returned from her tour in America. At the Steinway Hall, on Thursday evening, May 4, at eight o'clock, the speakers will be Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, L.L.B. These meetings are held weekly, and admission is free. Similar meetings are held throughout the country in all centres where the Union is represented.

Important Meetings.

In view of the second reading of the Woman's Bill on May 5, and of the great Procession and Demonstration on June 17, many meetings are being arranged all over the country in addition to those announced on page 498 *et seq.* The following will be held within the next fortnight: Mrs. Pankhurst at the Festival Concert Rooms, York, to-day (Friday), at 8 p.m.; at Doncaster Corn Exchange, to-morrow (Saturday), at 8 p.m.; at the Empire Palace, Barnsley, on

Sunday, April 30, at 8.15 p.m.; at the Albert Hall, Sheffield, on Monday, May 1; and at the Town Hall, Assembly Rooms, Rotherham, on Tuesday, May 2; Mrs. Pethick Lawrence at Ipswich, on Wednesday, May 10; Miss Vida Goldstein at Hitchin New Town Hall, to-day (Friday), at 8 p.m.; at the Spa, Felixstowe, to-morrow (Saturday); and at the Hampstead Conservatoire, on Saturday, May 6. Lord Robert Cecil will also speak at Hitchin New Town Hall, to-day (Friday), at 8 p.m.

Albert Hall, June 17.

Members wishing to attend the great Demonstration at the Albert Hall on Saturday, June 17, are reminded to secure seats for themselves and friends at once, as tickets are selling rapidly. All the boxes and 1s. seats are now sold out, and only a limited number of amphitheatre stalls at 2s. 6d. are left. Good upper orchestra or balcony seats (6d.) may be had if application is made now to Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Miss Hambling, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., makes a special appeal for stewards for this meeting. Members only are eligible.

Men's League Dinner.

The Men's League for Woman's Suffrage will give a dinner in honour of Miss Vida Goldstein, at Pagan's Restaurant, Great Portland Street, on Thursday, May 4, at 7.30 p.m. Amongst the other speakers will be Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Tickets (4s. each) may be obtained at the League Offices, 159, St. Stephen's House, Westminster.

Important Meeting at the Caxton Hall.

An important public meeting under the auspices of the Men's Political Union will be held at the Caxton Hall on Monday evening, May 15, when Miss Vida Goldstein, Mr. Hugh A. Franklin, Mr. Nevinson and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Mathew will speak. Mr. D. Cameron Swan in the chair. Reserved seats (1s. and 6d.) may now be booked at the Men's Political Union offices, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C. This will be Mr. Franklin's first appearance in public since his release from Pentonville Prison on April 7, and it is hoped that members will do their utmost to make the meeting widely known, especially among their young men friends.

Festival of Empire.

Members are reminded that at the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace, which opens on May 12, the W.S.P.U. have arranged to have a special kiosk (between the main bandstand and the Australian building) where literature and colours will be sold.

The Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

The Rev. T. Rhonda Williams' speech published in **VOTES FOR WOMEN** on April 14, is now issued as a leaflet, price, 9d. per 100, 6s. per 1,000, post free.

GETTING NEW READERS.

With the second reading debate on the Conciliation Bill coming on next week many men and women up and down the country, who have hitherto treated the question of woman suffrage with indifference or given to it at most spasmodic attention, are beginning to ask themselves what does it all mean? They are anxious to know more about it; they are willing to read what the Suffragettes are saying, and to try and understand their point of view. This is the time when the most effective work can be done with the paper. The street sellers are finding that they are able to dispose of twenty where before they could only get rid of a dozen. And new readers can be made all over the country.

April 17—April 22.

Previously acknowledged 1,814	
Miss Smyth Pigott	1
Mrs. W. M. Gow	2
Mrs. Beinholt	1
Miss R. Robson	1
Mrs. F. E. Smith	1
Miss Sibella Jones	1
Mr. E. P. Tausig	1
Miss M. Evans	1
Miss Flavell	1
Mrs. M. E. Britton	2
Mrs. Boulter	3
Miss V. Bland	1
Miss C. I. Craig	1
Miss Ellis	1
Miss E. A. Perkins	1
Miss G. M. Doucester	1
Mrs. J. Boyd	2
	1,851

The following have obtained subscribers who get their papers locally—	
Miss Blacklock	1
Miss N. Hoffman	2
Miss E. Keen	2
Miss E. Saxton	2
Miss A. Davies	3
Miss L. Clutterbuck	1
Mrs. B. L. Wickham	2
Mrs. Frank Corbett	8
	21

The list of new readers obtained during the past week is a healthy sign of activity, and the wonderful way in which many of our members have determined to let no obstacle prevent them from doing effective work is shown by the following interesting letters which I have received:—

One member writes:—

I am at work from early morning until late at night, am lame, and have an invalid mother, but will try to get an hour or two on Friday evenings to go round selling the paper. I am well known here, and everyone knows I am a Suffragette.

Mrs. Davies writes from Llanwrtyd Wells:—

I have been wondering how I can help. I cannot go about myself, as I have a very young baby and no nurse, so am very much tied. I have decided to write to a number of people about here and ask them to take the paper, and enclose a copy of *VOTES FOR WOMEN* with each note. I have so little time, that I must do the letters when I can snatch a moment. I have seen the news-agent, and she will display a poster every week. She supplied a copy to the local reading-room for me all through the winter. I would show the poster here if you like just to advertise the paper. Lots of people pass during July and August, and I would also say where the paper is to be had.

"A Highland Minister" writes to another member of the Union:—

I am reading *Votes* from end to end weekly; and there is not a weak paragraph in any issue I have read. There are excellent

writing and unanswerable arguments set forth week by week. It is my freshest news of the week. My progress in the matter is marvellous—I have learnt to have a profound admiration for the self-denying labourers fighting for their rights, and these rights are so few and so easily acquired were it not for the pig-headedness of Parliamentary autocrats. I have begun with the Ministers, but they are so led by Asquith and Lloyd George that they are afraid they might not be considered Liberals if they said anything against the two leaders.

Miss Nancy Lawrence, of Rhyl, is ordering three dozen copies of this week's issue through the local bookstall, and is getting a poster shown there. She has approached two supporters, and has asked them to take one dozen copies and post them with a letter to a dozen likely purchasers, asking them to read the paper, afterwards calling on them and securing their order for the paper to be delivered weekly. Miss Lawrence is hoping to get her number up to 100 copies a week.

Another member of the Union, who is convalescing at a hydro, writes that she has secured quite a circle of people who are interested in the paper.

The doctor most kindly gave me his lecture hour one evening, and I spoke to the guests and nurses. I also give out papers, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, and leaflets, and a great interest has been aroused. Two ladies are, I hope, going to become workers in our cause. Others tell me they see the whole matter in a new light, and will study it further. As new people are constantly coming, I hope to bring it before many more. I send a dozen *Votes* away every week, some to U.S.A., India, and Holland, in the latter place the lady I send to has held meetings and given addresses on the subject, and in India the officer I send to has brought the matter forward, and writes me his companions are greatly interested.

Mrs. Fred Fletcher, of Ilkeston, writes:—

We have rented a frame for *VOTES FOR WOMEN* poster at the Midland Railway Station, having collected, and made small profits at little "At Homes," the necessary sum of 25s. for twelve months' exhibition, which we hope will increase the sales here.

I have 18 clients to whom I deliver the paper weekly. Some pay me three, six, and twelve months in advance, and I keep sending to the clergy occasionally (some are very anti).

The York members sold a hundred copies in the Market Place last week. In addition, several of the members took additional copies to send to their friends.

Miss J. C. Methven writes:—

I already take six extra copies from three stationers for special friends, and I undertake to sell five dozen a week. Any not sold I send to women householders in the directory. One stationer keeps them on her counter, and when she does not sell them she sends them to customers as specimen copies.

Mrs. E. Ross writes:—

I post three copies each week to friends, and have done for more than a year.

Miss Sybil Parker writes:—

I am doing my very best to get readers, and have been getting from three to five copies a week. I send one copy to a lady in Bedfordshire (a schoolmistress). She passes it round, and has promised to get me some subscribers.

Miss Florrie Elmes writes:—

I always leave one copy each week at the waiting-room in the railway station, and both my mother and myself always take our own copies to the Women's Co-operative Guild when we have read them. I have now six regular readers, and each one passes her copy on to a friend.

And so the work of spreading the good news goes on!

F. W. P. L.**Debenham & Freebody.**

Wigmore Street, London, W.

QUAKER BLOUSE

(see sketch), thoroughly well made in our own workrooms, from extra fine Cotton Voile, tucked and hand-veined with hand-veined or hemstitched white lawn collar and cuffs, a very practical and inexpensive shirt, in grey, sage, navy, heliotrope, pink, sky, rose du harri, white and black, also in white with black spots.

12/9**Priscilla Satin Mefor Blouse, in all colours. 21/9**

THE MARCH OF THE WOMEN.

Saturday, June 17, 1911. Form up at 5 p.m., Westminster Embankment.

O, the beat of the drums,
And the sheen of the spears,
And red banners that toss like the sea . . .

We have waited so long
We can wait now no more,
And we march forth, our Freedom to meet;
Keeping step to a tune
That is brave as our hearts,
Whilst the stones clatter loud to our feet.

ETHEL CARRIE (A Marching Song).

There is a pretty picture in the minds of many people. It consists of a bevy of fair ladies waving dainty kerchiefs from a balcony, for the encouragement of the warriors tilting in the tournament. The dust of the arena flies up from the hoofs of the prancing steeds; brave deeds are wrought, and favours are showered on the victor at the end of the day. A pretty picture, indeed, and one perhaps not altogether imaginary. But whatever may have been the case in the "brave days of chivalry," the times have changed, and we with the times. The women have long come down from their pedestals, and have taken their places in the arena—they, like the men, have long fought in life's tournament—but unarmed, lacking the weapon that their brothers and husbands have always had. And this is the reason for the great March of the Women on June 17. The March is a March of Victory!

Never were there greater or more cogent reasons for such a demonstration. Never were there so many friends of the woman's movement in the House of Commons as well as in the country—indeed, throughout the world. And never was there a time when the women's point of view was more needed in the councils of the State. At the Queen's Hall last Monday afternoon Mrs. Pankhurst spoke of the insult offered to women in the proposal that Members of Parliament should be paid—largely out of the purses of the women who have hitherto had no voice in their selection. What body of men, she asked, would stand such an interference with their liberties? Again, the newspapers are daily full of reports of social conditions which cannot be allowed to exist much longer. Women must get to work to remedy abuses, and to give the results of their

homekeeping knowledge and experience to the service of the nation. In education (as evidenced at Aberystwyth last week) as well as in other matters of grave social import to the future of the race, women are needed as never before.

The Significance of 1911.

The year 1911 is a significant one. It is Coronation year, and it is fitting, therefore, that it should witness the crowning of womanhood by an act of justice long overdue. It is also the year of a great Imperial Conference, when statesmen representing enfranchised women from the daughter countries will, among others, throng the Capital of the Empire.

The Procession of June 17 will be National. Every Suffrage society in England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland has been invited to take part, and these various societies will bring their own banners and colours and special emblems. Among those societies who have already signified their intention to co-operate with the Women's Social and Political Union are the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, the Women's Freedom League, the Church League for Women's Suffrage, the Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, the Free Church League, the Actresses' Franchise League, the Women Writers' Suffrage League, the Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union, the Irish Women's Franchise League, the Women's Tax Resistance League, the Younger Suffragists, and the Suffrage Atelier.

It will be Imperial. Every part of the Empire will be represented, and among the special features will be a Pageant of Empire, which will be very beautiful and imposing in its display. Australia will be represented by Lady Cockburn and Miss Vida Goldstein, and New Zealand by Lady Stout, and there will be in the ranks many women who already exercise the franchise in their own country. This contingent will also be absolutely representative of the various political parties and of every section of the community.

It will be International. Flags of every country will be carried by the various sections representing the nationalities of the world. No more imposing or beautiful sight could be imagined than the bravery of these flags on a day in June! A correspondent in Paris writes to Mrs. Pankhurst: "I have communicated your letter to the Secretary of l'Union Française pour le Suffrage des Femmes, asking her to circulate it widely amongst the other Suffrage

Societies, some of which will probably be pleased to join in your great Demonstration; which we all hope will be a perfect success and another help towards the ultimate triumph of the Cause for which English Suffragists have fought so long and are still so bravely fighting."

Some Practical Details.

Clements Inn is humming with activity in all its various departments, and names of those intending to take part in the Procession are pouring in. The secretarial department is again this year in the hands of Miss Olive Smith, to whom, at 4, Clements Inn, all communications of a general nature, appeals for advice, etc., should be addressed. Definite offers of help should be sent to Miss Jessie Keeney, at the same address without delay.

Prisoners' Pageant and other Pageants.

As in the two Processions of last year, there will be a Pageant of Prisoners, when the number of imprisonments endured by women for the sake of women's enfranchisement will be represented. Last year 617 women took part; this year there will be nearly 700. The Prisoners' Pageant will be not realistic in its character, but entirely symbolic, as symbolic as the Empire Pageant and the other special features of the Procession. The seven hundred women who take part in it will not, except in a few exceptional cases, be women who have themselves endured imprisonment, for the specially trained and experienced workers of the Union are needed for positions of responsibility. The symbolic pageant will have to be carried out by volunteers, and we call upon all those women who are able to offer themselves to put themselves in touch immediately with Miss Elliott, 4, Clements Inn.

Two Thousand Women Needed.

The greatest need of the present moment is to get the names of volunteers prepared to take part in the various pageants, and this particular service presents a special opening to those who are not necessarily members of the Union, but whose interest has been aroused, and who are ready to take an opportunity of doing something to show their sympathy, and contribute to the success of the Procession. The service entails no very onerous work, responsibility or obligation. The volunteers for the Prisoners' Pageant will be required to wear white or cream, and will be asked not to have any other colour in their dress. Volunteers for the Empire Pageant

and the other Pageants will receive all instructions as to their dress direct from the artists. No expense will necessarily be entailed, though they can purchase their costumes at cost price and keep them if they desire to do so. It is hoped that within the next few days hundreds of women will send in their names for this service. Indeed, two thousand are urgently needed at once.

Contingents.

Among the contingents already being organised are those composed of nurses (Miss Buckley), civil servants, stenographers, and clerks (Miss Phyllis Ayrton and Miss Cynthia Maguire), business women (Miss Vibert and Miss Fergus), musicians (Miss Douglas Smith), international section (Miss Freeman), colonial section (Miss Dennett), Irish contingent (Miss Lennox), Scottish contingent (Miss Cameron), Welsh contingent (Mrs. Mansel-Moulin), and artists (Chelsea Local Union). Women graduates, teachers, factories and laundries, sweated women, gardeners and agriculturists, and pharmacists will also be represented.

The Decorations.

The decorative side of the demonstration has been placed in the very able hands of Miss Downing and Miss Wallace Dunlop, two artists who have established their reputation for success many times over during the last few years of the movement's history. They have also consented to act as advisers to all the local unions and provincial contingents. They have made several alternative designs in banners, and provincial and local organisations are urged to put themselves into communication with them at once with regard to the decorative arrangement of their respective contingents. Letters should be addressed to Miss Downing and Miss Wallace Dunlop, at 12, Smith Street, King's Road, Chelsea (five minutes' walk from Sloane Square Station). If there are any special groups of women who would like also to avail themselves of their advice in the matter of decorative arrangement they will hold themselves ready to be of service, and will be at 12, Smith Street every day (except Mondays), from 5 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 2 to 5, for interviews. Very beautiful and striking are the designs in preparation for this department, and Miss Downing and Miss Dunlop appeal specially for—

- (1) Good cutters-out of pictures.
- (2) Machinists to come every morning from 10 to 1 or every afternoon from 2 to 5. (Singer treadle or hand machines.)
- (3) Needlewomen.

CONCENTRATE ON 1911.

CONCENTRATE ON THESE NEXT DAYS.

BUY A SUPPLY OF THESE POSTCARDS.

THE CONCILIATION BILL

As revised 1911.

A Bill to [confer] extend the Parliamentary Franchise [on] to Women Occupiers.

1. Every woman possessed of a household qualification, or of a ten pound occupation qualification, within the meaning of the Representation of the People Act (1884), shall be entitled to be registered as a voter, and when registered to vote for the County or Borough in which the qualifying premises are situate.
2. For the purposes of this Act a woman shall not be disqualified by marriage for being registered as a voter, provided that a husband and wife shall not both be qualified in respect of the same property registered as voters in the same Parliamentary Borough or County Division.

The alterations shown above have been made to allow of free amendment in Committee, and to overcome the objection that the Bill as it originally stood rendered the creation of faggot votes possible.

The alteration in the above is signified by deleting the words in *italics* and adding the words in brackets.

N.B.—In the actual postcard the alterations have been shown by drawing lines through the words in *italics* and adding the words in brackets.

Issued without profit by the Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

THESE CARDS SUPPLIED

RETAIL AT

2d. per doz. (Postage 1d.)

WHOLESALE AT

1s. 6d. per gross (Postage 3d.)

12 gross all packed in dozens, carriage free to shops and Societies, 15s. (i.e., 9s. profit to the shops, etc.).

CASH WITH ALL ORDERS.

SEND TO-DAY TO—

THE MEN'S LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE,

159, St. Stephen's House, Westminster, S.W. (Adjoining the Station).

who will supply (free) copies of this advertisement for exhibition and distribution by Suffrage workers.

CUT THIS OFF.

ORDER FORM.

To the SECRETARY, MEN'S LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE, 159, St. Stephen's House, Westminster.

Please supply

done

Conciliation Cards by return, for which I enclose £

Name

Address

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

- (4) Stencillers to give regular time.
- (5) Modellers.
- (6) Carpenters.
- (7) Fancy milliners and makers of head-dresses.
- (8) Tall women to walk in the Pageant (5 ft. 5 ins. and over).
- (9) Small women (sixty of these), 5 ft. 2 ins. and under.
- (10) Five people to undertake to do or get done small groups of an abbees with her three nuns (pattern and materials supplied).

A "Votes for Women" Corps.

While the Procession is forming up thousands of people will collect along the route from the Embankment to the Albert Hall. They will have some time to wait, and this time is of immense value to the large detachment of women whose duty it will be to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN. The crowd which will assemble will be a unique one. In it will be representatives of nations all over the world, as well as many from lands where women are already enfranchised. It will be the duty of the VOTES FOR WOMEN Corps to see that these spectators shall have the opportunity not only of carrying away with them the memory of the Women's Pageant, but also of reading the printed words of the leaders of the women's movement, in the weekly newspaper of the W.S.P.U. Offers to take part in this very important work should be sent at once to Miss Helen Craggs, Woman's Press Shop, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Great Outdoor Campaign.

In preparation for June 17 an outdoor campaign on an extensive scale is being organised, and many additional workers are needed for this. New members who have not yet taken an active share in this great fight for the Vote are earnestly invited to take this opportunity—perhaps the last! Do not be content to look on and admire—do not linger on the fringe—come in and work! The Organiser of this department is Miss Mary Beldon.

Banners on the Route.

As Barbara Fritchie hung out the Stars and Stripes, so will men and women in business and private houses in all the prominent streets of London hang out the purple, white, and green to make the Procession known. Many volunteers are needed to canvass for this. The Secretary of this department is Miss Bowker.

Chalking Parties.

As the time approaches volunteers will be needed for chalking the pavements with the announcement of the great event—names should be sent to Miss Jessie Kenney, 4, Clements Inn.

Drawing-room Meetings.

It is hoped that a great number of Drawing-room Meetings will be held during the weeks preceding June 17. This is a most useful way of bringing the urgency of the great demonstration before women who are not brought closely into touch with the movement in other ways. It is hoped there will be a very ready response from members and friends of the Union in this way. Will all who can give Drawing-room Meetings communicate with Miss Muriel Thomson, 48, Queen's Gate, W.

HOSPITALITY WANTED.

The Hospitality Secretary, 4, Clements Inn, appeals for offers of hospitality in London for members coming up from the country next week to interview Members of Parliament. Offers should be sent at once to the above address.

TAX RESISTANCE.

A splendid protest against taxation without representation was made on Tuesday last, when Dr. Jessie Murray's goods were sold at Oxenham's Auction Rooms, Oxford Street, in default of taxes which she had refused to pay. A large number of women, including Mrs. Pankhurst, whose entry was greeted with enthusiastic cheers, were present, and before the goods (consisting of twelve chairs and a side-board) were sold an address was delivered by Mrs. Cobden Sanderson. She said that she stood there in the name of John Hampden, who in the past fought for freedom as women were fighting to-day. It was just as illegal for Governments of the twentieth century to tax half the community without asking their consent as it was for the Stuart Kings to levy the Ship Money which John Hampden refused to pay. Taxation and representation must go together, and she hoped that every woman upon whom taxes were levied would follow the example of Dr. Jessie Murray until women were allowed to vote. After the sale the women walked in procession, carrying banners, bearing the motto "No Votes, No Taxes," to Hyde Park, where a most successful meeting was held, and a resolution endorsing the principle that votes should be given to women who paid rates and taxes was passed with one dissentient. The duty amounted to £4 10s. 9d., and across the paper Dr. Murray had written: "I, a member of the Tax Resistance League, hereby declare that I have conscientious objections to paying King's taxes so long as women are denied the suffrage. I maintain that taxation without representation is unconstitutional." A sale of Dr. Long's goods is to take place to-day (Friday evening), at 6, Station Road, Finsbury Park. It is hoped that as many friends and supporters as possible will be present at the protest meeting, which will be held at 6.30 p.m.

THE CHARGES AGAINST THE POLICE.

The following resolution was passed by the London Graduates' Union on April 8, 1911.—"That the committee of the London Graduates' Union for Women's Suffrage having appointed a sub-committee, consisting of their medical members, to investigate the evidence for the charges brought forward in the memorial sent by the Parliamentary Conciliation Committee for Women's Suffrage to the Home Office with regard to the treatment of a deputation of women on November 18, 1910, and having received from that sub-committee a report, desire to associate themselves with those other bodies which have already expressed their regret that a public inquiry has not been granted into the conduct of the police on the above-mentioned occasion."

At the University of Tokio, which provides a thorough education for Japanese women, the Chairs of History, Physical and Natural Science, and Mathematics are filled by women graduates, and feminism is making great strides in Japan.—*La Française*.

THE PRESS BOYCOTT.

In a vigorous article *Nursing Notes* writes as follows:—

The boycott by the daily press, almost without exception, of the ordinary items of news concerning the Women's Suffrage Movement is becoming something little short of a public scandal. We trust that all our readers who are interested in this question take the trouble to inform themselves through the pages of the special papers devoted to Suffrage of what is actually occurring day by day. It is only by reading VOTES FOR WOMEN, the *Common Cause*, and others each week, with their carefully compiled extracts from the Press of the meagre items of intelligence that are allowed to filter through to their readers, that one can become aware of the extent to which the suppression of information is now carried on. The matter is one of serious moment, not merely because it is most unfair treatment of any movement, no matter whether we are in sympathy with it or not, but also because it is deliberately cheating the public of information for which they pay when they purchase their daily news sheet, supposed to detail the events of the week as they occur.

Take one example: on Thursday, March 23, one of the monster meetings in support of the movement for securing the enfranchisement of women

WOMEN CONSTABLES.

Poor Antis! Their favourite arguments are always being smashed up either by the logic of their opponents or by inconvenient but inexorable facts. They used to tell us, long ago, that women ought not to have votes because they could not be soldiers. Then Joan of Arc and other warrior women having been mentioned, they would say that in these days the enforcement of the law depended upon the police force, and "women could never be policemen!" And now we have to break to them the news that in Hunnewell, Kansas, Mrs. Rose Osborn has been chosen from a host of applicants to fill the position of Chief of Police, and in Berlin we hear that thirty women constables are to be appointed! Their duty will be to inspect houses where children are farmed. The women must be "physically strong, quiet, self-controlled, tactful and dignified," and have some knowledge of medicine and nursing. They will have large powers of inspection and will be entitled to break into dwellings where they think children are being ill-treated. If the experiment succeeds the number of policewomen is to be increased to one hundred. Women constables are also to be appointed for the same work in Düsseldorf. Even a little girl of thirteen acted as detective the other day, and succeeded in following and bringing about the arrest of a man concerned in the robbery of a gas-meter. The story was told at the London Sessions on April 25. The Antis will have to hunt about for new bogeys.

AT THE THEATRES.

Miss Ellen Terry makes her first appearance in London, since her return from America, on Monday, May 8, at 2.30, at the Kingsway Theatre, in a new one-act play, "The First Actress," by Christopher St. John. This is the first of the subscription performances to be given by the Pioneer Players. The bill includes also two other new one-act plays, "In the Workhouse," by Margaret Wynne Nevins, and "Jack and Jill and a Friend," by Cicely Hamilton (who will also take part in one of the plays). Among the artistes who will appear are Misses Lena Ashwell, Lily Brayton, Nancy Price, Decima Moore, Auriol Lee, Dorothy Minto, Clare Greet, Margaret Halstan, Saba Raleigh, Suzanne Sheldon, Agnes Thomas, Christine Silver, Athene Seyler, Olive Terry, Messrs. Tom Heslewood, Harcourt Williams, Ben Webster, Frederick Lloyd, W. B. Abingdon, and Edmund Gwenn. All the plays have a strong woman's interest. The second performance, which will take place on Sunday, June 11, will be the lecture by Miss Ellen Terry on "Shakespeare's Women," which has proved such an enormous success in America. Those wishing to have the unique opportunity of hearing Miss Terry's lecture are advised to make early application for seats, as there has already been a great demand. All particulars can be had from the Secretary, 2, Adelphi Terrace House, Strand, W.C.

THREE SUFFRAGE PLAYS.

The performance given by the Actresses' Franchise League at the Rehearsal Theatre on Tuesday was a conspicuous success. The bill opened with Miss Vera Wentworth's "Allegory," in which the Woman chained by Convention seeks the City of Freedom, but is held back by Fear and Prejudice, only to burst his bonds when Courage, a glowing champion, lends her his sword and shield. Then Man, who has hitherto climbed the rocky road alone, comes back rejoicing at his mate's deliverance, and turning a deaf ear to the Slave Woman, who openly glories in her gilded chains, Man and Woman fare forth hand in hand with the portentous farewell words to her sister, "Thou wilt surely follow." Beautifully played, this little piece, so direct, so true, won hearty applause.

"The Eclectics Club," by J. Maurice Hunter, presented the Suffrage question in debate in the rooms of a University graduate. Here the types were remarkably contrasted, each showing truthfully (and there were eight men in all) the personal outlook, as defined by temperament. The discussion ended in a scuffle, when the upholder of freedom for the woman, indignant at the criticism of his own private affairs, was set upon by the others and thrown out of the room. The real champion of the cause, however, decides the momentous issue in a trenchant and truthful utterance: "If men were just, women would not really need the vote." "If," replies the champion, "if they were just and omniscient."

Miss M. Slieve McGowan's powerful and tragic little play, "Trimings," showed the temptations of a beautiful city typist. Dependent upon her slender earnings, she vows the one way of escape, should hunger ever assail her again, will be through suicide rather than physical degradation. So when her employer turns her off because she scorns his advances the dread alternative is all that is left.

The acting was excellent throughout, and three more admirable propaganda plays are by this performance added to the repertoire of the League.

The artists taking part were: Miss Maud Hoffman, Mr. Heatherley, Miss Violet Bazalgette, Miss Beatrice Filmer, Mr. Ross Shore, Mr. Jackson Wilcox (in "An Allegory"); Mr. Ivor Barnard, Mr. J. L. Dale, Mr. Walter Cross, Mr. Frederick Morena, Mr. Dennis Cleugh, Mr. W. Coats-Bush, Mr. Norman Little, Mr. Arthur E. Holland (in "The Eclectics Club"), Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Mary Deverell, Miss Irene Moncrieff, Mr. Athol Stewart (in "Trimings").

"A DOLL'S HOUSE."

Mme. Lydia Yavorska is continuing her most successful impersonation of Nora, in "A Doll's House," at the Kingsway Theatre. Miss Janet Achurch, so closely identified with the earliest performances of Ibsen in England, is playing Mrs. Linden. The cast also includes Norman Trevor, Franklin Dyal, Frederick Lloyd, Miss Jean Bloomfield, and Miss B. Grand. The first matinee was given on Wednesday, April 26.

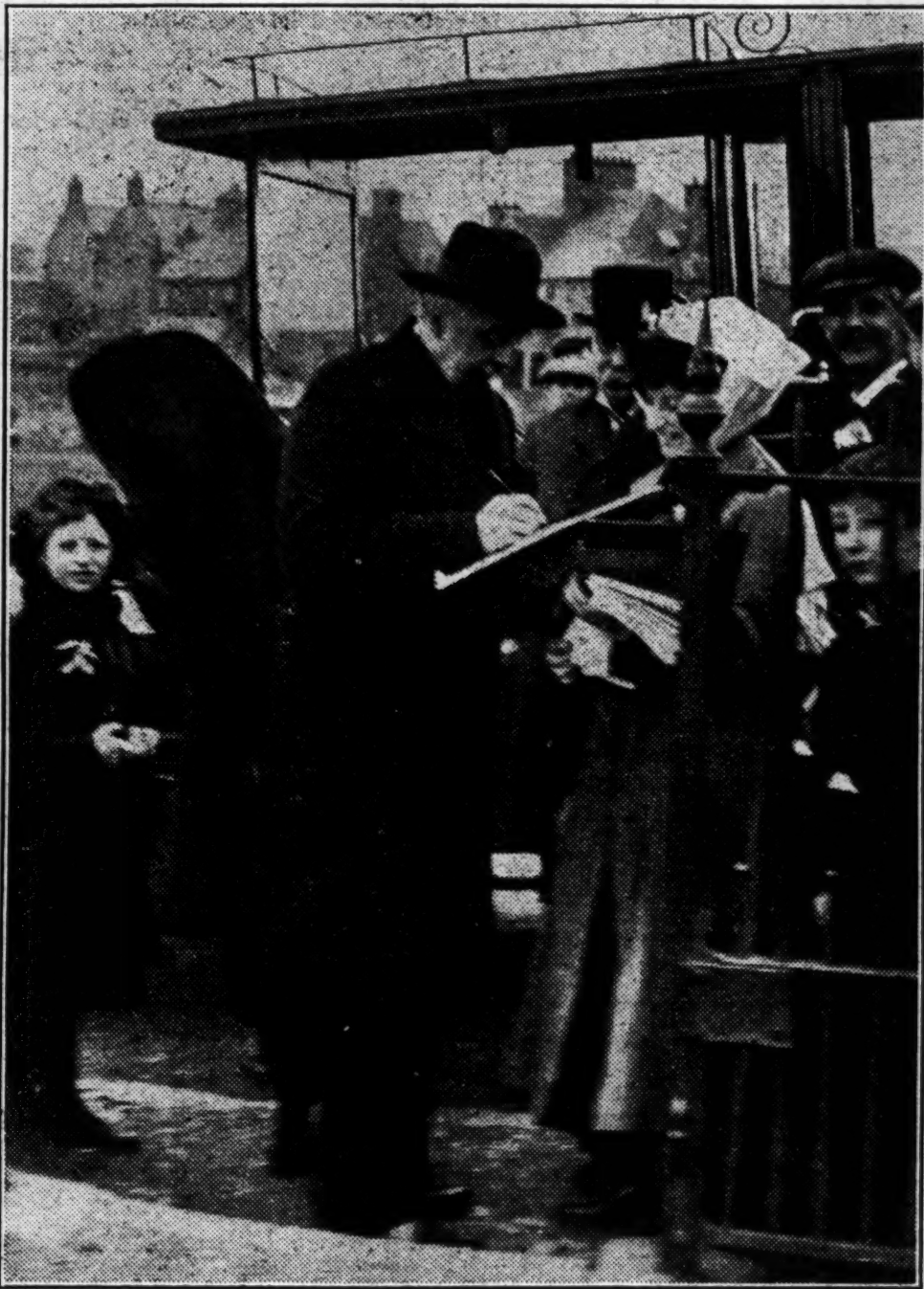
We have much pleasure in drawing our readers' attention to the matinee to be given to-day (Friday) at the Court Theatre, in aid of the M.P.U. The programme includes "How she Lied to her Husband," by G. Bernard Shaw; "The Laugh against the Lawyer," by Marion Cunningham and other new and original plays. Tickets (price, 10s., 5s., 4s., 2s. 6d. and 1s.) may be booked at the M.P.U. office, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.; at the Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C., and at the Actresses' Franchise League, 2, Robert St, Adelphi, W.C.

On page 487 "E.P.L." writes about a new play at the Little Theatre. We would remind our readers here that seats can now be obtained at this theatre for half-a-crown.

LORD ROBERT CECIL ON WOMAN'S WORK.

A most interesting meeting was held in the Parish room, Horsted Keynes, on Wednesday afternoon, April 19, when Lord Robert Cecil addressed an enthusiastic meeting on the subject of woman's suffrage. Muriel Countess De La Warr presided, and was supported by Mrs. Martindale, Lady De La Warr, in her opening speech, proposed the following resolution: "That this meeting calls upon the Government to grant facilities for the Bill to enfranchise women to pass through the House of Parliament this session."

Lord Robert Cecil, who was enthusiastically greeted, seconded the resolution. Having dealt with anti-suffrage arguments, Lord Robert Cecil said that the very difference of outlook between man and woman was, he considered, one of the reasons for extending the franchise to women. Women were better judges of character than men; their power of discerning between the true and the false, between the low and the high-principled man, was much greater than that possessed by their male colleagues, and when women were put into positions of authority, this statement was borne out. The one great characteristic of the great woman rulers of mankind had been their power of selecting really satisfactory Ministers, and sticking to them when they had selected them. In conclusion, the speaker said he also wished women to have the vote because he strongly believed that the greatest danger of the present day was the danger of materialism, by which what might be termed the spiritual considerations tended to be ignored. He believed that danger was as strong as ever, and he thought they must admit that the spiritual instincts of women were stronger than those of men, and to set up a counter-effect to the materialistic influences of the present day, they could not do better than call women to their aid.



MR. BALFOUR SIGNING A PETITION IN FAVOUR OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE AT EAST LOTHIAN BY-ELECTION.

took place at the Albert Hall. Once again this largest of our public halls in London was filled with an enthusiastic audience, the speaker being Miss Vida Goldstein, leader of the women's movement in Australia, and a sum of over £6,000 was subscribed during the meeting. Yet on Friday morning those who were unable to attend that meeting and scanned the morning paper for news of what took place, found themselves actually in ignorance as to whether the meeting had ever been held. No mention was made in several papers of both sides in politics, in others four or five lines in small type in an obscure corner represented all that the women of this country were permitted by the male editors of the daily papers to know of a matter so closely concerning their particular interests. Surely no fair-minded person will contend that this is as it should be. Had such a meeting been held in support of any other movement the newspapers would have been filled next day with reports of the speeches. We hear much of the liberty of the Press, and of our "free country." It would rather appear that the press itself is setting up a tyranny which is a grave menace to the liberty of the subject.

WOMEN DOCTORS.

At a meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Northern Association of Medical Women held in Manchester recently the following resolutions were passed:—(1) That this Association is grateful for the efforts of the Sub-committee of Royal Infirmary Committee to afford post-graduate experience for women; (2) the Association hopes that the scheme, which appears to be a tentative one, may be soon replaced by one giving more responsibility and a more clearly defined position to the women graduates.

—Manchester Guardian.

WHY BABIES DIE.

The *Lancet* of April 8 publishes some significant figures on infant mortality in Birmingham. The interesting report made by Dr. Jessie Duncan on the death rate amongst children in two of the poorest wards in the city, St. George's and St. Stephen's, shows the rate of infant mortality in 1910 to have been 140 in St. George's Ward and 163 in St. Stephen's, as compared with 213 and 232 in 1904. Yet in 1909, of 1,285 mothers, 728 were industrially employed before or after confinement in a factory or elsewhere. The mortality was highest among the children whose mothers worked at a factory, and lowest amongst those whose mothers worked at home, charring, washing, &c. Employment only caused 6 per cent. difference in the number in good health, while feeding is shown to have caused a difference of 26 per cent. between the breast-fed and artificially-fed children. The *Lancet* concludes:—"But the influence of employment is quite small, when compared with the influence of acute poverty. In so far as the mother's employment reduces the acuteness of the poverty it may tend to improve the infant mortality. At any rate, it is doubtful whether any further interference with the employment of married women would be at all beneficial so long as the acute poverty remains." The italics are our own.

G.P.O. GIRL MESSENGERS.

"Equal pay for equal work" does not correspond with a shilling less a week for the girls than the boy messengers receive. And yet it cannot be urged that the boys have a wife and family to support, nor that their clothes are more expensive; and it has yet to be proved that the girls are slower or less conscientious or more rude or more troublesome. If only women had the vote, inequalities might be levelled down.

—Paddington Mercury.

"THE GREATEST NEED OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY."

Members assembled in force in the Queen's Hall on Monday afternoon ready to work with might and main for the Conciliation Bill, which is coming up for second reading next Friday.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, in the absence of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who was taking part in the Cheltenham by-election campaign, took the chair, and alluded first to the example recently set the Suffragists by Mr. Winston Churchill. The Home Secretary, she reminded the audience, had very often rebuked supporters of Woman Suffrage for making interruptions at public meetings, and yet in the House of Commons the other day he himself had interrupted and had provoked a complaint as to his manners. When one realised that the policy of interruption was one resorted to by politicians of all schools, and even by Cabinet Ministers, one saw the folly of trying to persuade Suffragists that it was not a policy which they were absolutely entitled to pursue. It was a lack of understanding of the facts of political life which made many people condemn the tactics of the Suffragists. These people seemed to think that those tactics were something absolutely unheard of and without precedent, whereas, as a matter of fact, they were a milder form of the methods pursued by men politicians from time immemorial. With regard to the Woman Suffrage Bill now before Parliament, there was no reason whatever why it should not be passed into law this Session. The Bill had been made even more democratic than it was last year. Miss Pankhurst then alluded to the figures given in the Conciliation Committee's Memorial, printed in full on page 488, and said that in view of these figures it was to be hoped that the opposition of the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary would be withdrawn. That being the case, the prospects of the Bill would be infinitely more hopeful than they were a year ago. Everything pointed to its success this year; the Coronation, the Imperial Conference, all brought new elements of hope into the situation. Even the anti-Suffragists knew that sooner or later women were going to get the vote; the most they hoped to do was to set back the tide. But this was an impossibility. The great tide of Woman Suffrage was going to sweep right in this year, and would wash away all the obstacles that had so long kept women out of their rights as human beings and as British citizens.

THE HON. M. MACNAUGHTEN.

The Hon. Malcolm MacNaughten, M.A., expressed the belief that when the cause of Woman Suffrage was won, the victory would be mainly due to the Women's Social and Political Union. Public interest in the question had been stimulated by the sincerity and self-sacrifice which the militant women had shown. It had been said that it was not possible properly to advocate a cause unless you could appreciate the arguments of your opponents. He (Mr. MacNaughten) was under a disadvantage in that respect, for, although he had read everything that had been written by Lord Cromer and Mrs. Humphrey Ward, he had altogether failed to grasp what were the reasons which apparently presented themselves to their minds against the removal of the disqualification of sex. He was of opinion that many "wobblers" were converted to the cause by Mrs. Humphrey Ward's letters to the *Times*. Though he could not deal with their arguments because of his total failure to appreciate them, he wished to put forward one unanswerable and unanswered argument in favour of the cause.

Unanswerable Arguments.

It was based upon three propositions. First, that the political government of this country depends upon popular will; second, that by our system of representative government it is possible to ascertain what the popular will is, and third, that the opinion of women should go to make up the sum of the popular will upon which the government of this country is based. That argument seemed to him unanswerable and unanswerable, and in the interests of the country as a whole it was urgently necessary that the disqualification of sex in the matter of voting should be removed, and removed at once. The removal of this disqualification was necessary, not only in the interests of the community as a whole but in the interests of women themselves. This was proved by the incidents which took place outside the House of Commons on November 18 and 22 last. Anyone who had read the statements of people who were present at Westminster on those occasions would agree that a *prima facie* case had been made out that when the women were treated in the manner described in those statements the police were given to understand that they might treat the women with violence, insult, and indignity, and that nothing would be said about it.

"An Outrage."

If such an allegation as that had been made in the case of people with votes, Cabinet Ministers would have been tumbling over each other in their anxiety to grant the fullest, the most searching, the most public inquiry. It was only necessary to compare the way in which the Home Secretary had treated the rioters of Tonyandy and the manner in which he had dealt with the Women Suffragists to see the truth of that statement. It was an outrage that such an allegation should have been made on evidence which appeared so convincing and satisfactory, and that no effort at all had been made to investigate their truth. Those incidents alone had shown that it was absolutely necessary in their own interest that women should be enfranchised.

MRS. PANKHURST.

Mrs. Pankhurst, in the course of an inspiring speech, said it was impossible to take up a newspaper or to read anything political without realising the extreme urgency for women to have the vote now, in order to prevent worse mistakes and worse blunders from being made in the present than we had been accustomed to in the past. Worse mistakes, because more and more legislation was coming into our daily lives. There was a Bill, introduced with excellent intentions into the House of Lords, dealing with street trading. We were told, and it was true, unfortunately, that to trade in the streets was a very dangerous thing for the young of both sexes. "I think," Mrs. Pankhurst said, "that it is a very great blot on our civilisation that our streets should be unfit for the young to be in. It seems to me that perhaps the first thing for legislators to do is to see that our streets are made clean and fit for men, women and children to go about in without

any need for special protection. But in that wisdom men legislators do not take that view

"With the Best Intentions."

They think the best way to protect the young is to devise some means of keeping them off the streets. How do they do it? They do not set to work to provide good play-grounds for young children, or to have the children given education—technical instruction. No, their idea of protection is to make it illegal for children under a certain age to earn their living in the streets. And so we have a Bill in the House of Lords to raise the age of boys to sixteen and the age of girls to eighteen. (Shame, shame.) Yes, it is a shame. And with the very best intentions. I wonder how much time the legislators responsible for the measure give to studying the actual condition of the law, and to what is the position of girls over sixteen years of age? Now, at sixteen years of age, if a father chooses he can turn his daughter out of the house to earn her own living. If she has no parents and is a child of the State, the State is not responsible for her after the age of sixteen. She is treated as a full-grown human being. She can go out and earn her own living in any way that is open to her. If it is a question of protecting her physically and morally, the law only protects her up to the age of sixteen. The years between sixteen and eighteen are the most dangerous of her life. If you prevent her from selling flowers or matches in the street, if she is a girl who has never had any technical training or learnt any trade, what are you going to do for her between the ages of sixteen and eighteen? The Bill does not say anything about that. And I would like to say to the women who have never been exposed to the temptation of the street which comes from having no money in your pocket, to those women for whom Lady Robert Cecil wrote that article in *VOTES FOR WOMEN* last week: Is it not your urgent duty to try to get some power into the hands of women who do care about these things? To see that well intentioned proposed legislation does not make matters a great deal worse even than they are to-day? We know there is one trade that is always open to girls of sixteen, and the Bill does not propose to prevent that going on, no Bill ever will until women get the power.

Insurance for Mothers.

Mrs. Pankhurst then proceeded to discuss the great scheme of insurance for which the Government is going to find time. Working men engaged in certain trades were to be insured against unemployment and sickness. She asked herself, as a woman, what share were women to have in that great scheme? They would at any rate have the share of helping to pay for it! There need never be doubt about that. Women might make their minds perfectly easy on that point, that when expensive legislation was initiated women would pay their share of the expense. But, she asked, what provision was going to be offered for the women engaged in the very biggest industry of all, in the most dangerous industry of all, the industry of peopling the nation, of carrying on the race? Was there to be any insurance for mothers? And yet it seemed to her that the most pressing thing, when one considered the condition of the people, the national health, the rate of infantile mortality, was insurance for maternity. "You know," said Mrs. Pankhurst, "they say that is so expensive. It may be the most necessary, but it costs the most money. And so they generally begin, where a mass of people are concerned, by taking the thing that costs least and is least needed. That was my experience as a public representative. I remember once attending a conference of medical officers of health. They were discussing compulsory notification of certain diseases. Small-pox had to be notified; that was compulsory. There is very little small-pox; it is a disease which is practically extinct. It does not cost very much to notify. Scarlet fever had to be notified. And one man said that the most prevalent, the most dangerous, and the most infectious disease of any was measles. I said, 'Then why don't you try to make the notification of measles compulsory?'"

"So Expensive."

He replied, "You know it is so prevalent, and there is so much of it, it would be so expensive." That is what makes one realise the truth of what the Anti-Suffragists say as a reason for women not having the vote, that men are men and women are women. Because the very reason that would appeal to women most of all was the very reason that seemed to men sufficient for not dealing by legislation with this particular question of disease. It seems to me that if we are to have insurance schemes at all (and I have no objection whatever, in fact I think it would be a very desirable thing that the working class, who form the bulk of the population, should have their lives made as secure as possible) it seems to me that we ought to go right to the root of the matter, and see that those who have the responsibility of the future, the women of the country, the mothers of the nation, whose employment costs so much risk of human life, should be made absolutely secure.

The Power Needed.

Do you imagine that women will have their fair share of any insurance scheme, or any scheme for social improvement, until they have got the power into their hands to see that their interests in the matter are safeguarded? That is why we, who are called Suffragettes, are so much more in earnest about this question of Woman Suffrage than any other section of Suffragists. We know what we want; we know the need for it and we realise the urgency. And we think that in order to get this means of protection, this instrument for the emancipation of our sex as part of the nation, any sacrifice is worth making. We believe that this cause of the emancipation of women is not only the greatest cause in the Twentieth Century, but we believe it is also the most urgent and the most necessary. We set it before everything else. We know it comes before everything else, because men have no right to settle any of the other questions until we can express our opinion on them too. There are no exceptions to that statement, which I have made with a full sense of responsibility.

Sir Joseph Ward, the Premier of New Zealand and well known as a keen supporter of Woman Suffrage, has arrived in London.

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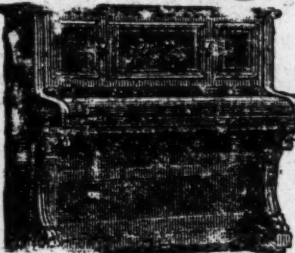
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G. B. S. AND WOMAN'S SPHERE.

Most women are so thoroughly home-bred as to be unfit for human society.

"Another of Bernard Shaw's extravagantly meaningless utterances!" exclaim many people who have not sufficient wits ever to be able to understand Bernard Shaw's writings at all. "Iconoclastic, would-be breaker-up of Home Life!" rise, in indignant chorus (and, of course, from their "proper sphere" of the Home) the voices of our friends the Anti's.

But let any intelligent, unprejudiced man or woman read the whole context of the above and the following passages from the new volume of Mr. Bernard Shaw's Plays,* and then say honestly whether that witty aphorism is not really merely a plain, simple, unvarnished statement of a very hard and serious fact.

Home life, as we understand it, is no more natural to us than a cage is natural to a cockatoo. Its grave danger to the nation lies in its narrow views . . . its petty tyrannies, its false social pretences . . . and all the other ills mentionable and unmentionable, that arise from excessive segregation. It sets these evils up as benefits and blessings representing the highest attainable degree of honour and virtue, whilst any criticism of or revolt against them is savagely persecuted as the extremity of vice. . . . A woman, entirely preoccupied with her affection for her husband, a mother entirely preoccupied with her affection for her children, may be all very well in a book (for people who like that kind of book); but in actual life she is a nuisance. Husbands may escape from her when their business compels them to be away from home all day; but young children may be, and quite often are, killed by her cuddling and coddling and doctoring and preaching.

So far, Bernard Shaw himself, in one of his Prefaces: now for the very amusing, practical illustration of the foregoing sentiments in the words of the actors of the play, "Getting Married."

Collins (greengrocer and alderman, holding forth to the Bishop's wife anent his own wife): She's a born wife and mother, ma'am. That's why my children all ran away from home.

Mrs. Bridgenorth (the Bishop's wife): Did you ever feel inclined to run away, Collins?

Collins: Oh yes, ma'am, yes; very often. But when it came to the point I couldn't bear to hurt her feelings. She's a sensitive, affectionate, anxious soul; and she was never brought up to know what freedom is to some people. You see, family life is all the life she knows; she's like a bird born in a cage, that would die if you let it loose in the woods . . . She never understood that married people should take a holiday from one another if they are to keep at all fresh. Not that I ever got tired of her, ma'am; but my! how I used to get tired of home life sometimes!

All of which sayings, grave and gay, bear forcible witness to the truth and justice of that chief tenet of the advocates of Women's Emancipation—that, although the woman's place certainly is the home (for those who are lucky enough to have one!), to limit woman's sphere entirely to the home only, and to make the boundaries of that home the four walls of a single house, or perhaps even of a single room, is to defeat the very ends for which those who command this false and forcible imprisonment of guiltless persons are ostensibly working. For to act thus is, in reality, not to preserve but to shatter the home. Moreover, all companionship between men and women, between husband and wife becomes an impossibility . . . "because the woman has a 'sphere' of her own, that of house-keeping, in which man must not meddle, whilst he has all the rest of human activity for his sphere: the only point at which the two spheres touch being that of replenishing the population."

Although none of the plays nor the prefaces is in any way written with relation to the Woman's Movement, nevertheless the work abounds with the most weighty and important matter and arguments in support of almost every single one of the claims set forth by women of the present day in advocacy of the great National need for the Political Enfranchisement of Women. Take for instance the very significant passage following:—

The political emancipation of women is likely to lead to a comparatively stringent enforcement of sexual morality (that is why so many of us dread it); and this will soon compel us to consider what our sexual morality shall be. . . . At all such points the code will be screwed up by the operation of Votes for Women, if there be any virtue in the franchise at all. The result will be that men will find the more ascetic side of our sexual morality taken seriously by the law. It is easy to foresee the consequences. No man will take much trouble to alter laws which he can evade, or which are either not enforced or enforced on women only. But when these laws take him by the collar and thrust him into prison, he suddenly becomes keenly critical of them, and of the arguments by which they are supported. Now, we have seen that our marriage laws will not stand criticism, and that they have held out so far only because they are so worked as to fit roughly our state of society, in which women are neither politically nor personally free: in which, indeed, women are called womanly only when they regard themselves as existing solely for the use of men. . . . Both men and women will be forced to behave morally in sex matters. . . . they will have to make a revolutionary change in their habits by becoming in fact what they only pretend to be at present.

Precisely what all thinking women have reasoned and known for a long time past.

On marriage Bernard Shaw's view is precisely that

* "The Doctor's Dilemma" (and other Plays). Constable. 6s.

of Cicely Hamilton as set forth in her book, "Marriage as a Trade."

One that disposes of the conventional assumption that it is in the faithful discharge of her home duties that a woman finds her self-respect. The truth is that family life will never be decent, much less ennobling, until this central horror of the dependence of women on men is done away with.

He sees, as every thoughtful woman sees clearly, that the root of the whole evil is, really, an economic one. He goes on:—

It is in the general movement for the prevention of destitution that the means for making women independent of the compulsory sale of their person, in marriage or otherwise, will be found.

His views, in fact, altogether, coincide absolutely with these words printed on the Self-Denial Cards of the W.S.P.U.: "The underlying cause of very much misery, sin and disease in the world is the present legal, political, and economic helplessness of women."

The very logical proposition that, as woman's chief and most important labour is that of being a Wife and a Mother, then that labour should receive its due monetary recognition like every other form of honourable labour, has no stronger advocate than G.B.S.

After arguing the many reforms necessary with regard to the marriage and divorce laws, the economic slavery of women, and much else (and having in a previous portion of the book made the significant statement that "the criminal law is no use to decent people. It merely helps blackguards to blackmail their families"), Bernard Shaw thus sums up:—

And take and deal with all the consequences of these acts of justice instead of letting yourself be frightened out of reason and good sense by fear of consequences. We must finally adapt our institutions to human nature. In the long run our present plan of trying to force human nature into a mould of existing abuses, superstitions, and corrupt interests produces the explosive forces that wreck civilisation.

Is not that, in almost identical language, the very warning that the W.S.P.U. has more than once publicly given to the Government?

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SUSAN.

By Dora de Beke.

Down in Southern Ohio, some fifty years ago, Susan Oliver enjoyed the distinction of being the better half of Samuel B. Oliver, and the reputation of being a model wife, mother and housewife.

Now Samuel was a shining light in the local meeting-house of the small township on Sundays, and the sharpest, cutest, and consequently most prosperous man of business during the week; his sharpness during six days being overlooked by his fellow townsmen, because it enabled him to be liberal in his donations to the church on the first. His wife was a real helpmate; she toiled all the week, and ungrudgingly toiled on those Sunday mornings when her husband entertained the preacher, because of the distinction it conferred upon him (her husband) and the reflected glory the honour of preparing the feast shed upon herself.

But Susan Oliver was only human, and she often longed to be able to get clear away from her many and varied household cares and the drudgery and monotony of seven days' work in almost every week. She sometimes longed just to go forth into the woods that looked so tempting in the summer sunshine and to feel that she could with a clear conscience enjoy but one hour's absolutely undisturbed communion with nature, and the luxury of one unoccupied hour.

She was not a Suffragist—if such a thing existed fifty years ago—but just a domestic woman, proud of her family and her housewifery, and only longing for a respite when she was over-worked and over-tired.

It happened one week that Susan had been unusually busy. There had been bushels of peaches to can, an extra "fall" washing; dresses to be made for her girls now growing rapidly into "misses" in their teens, and a hundred other things to be seen to. So Susan had looked forward to the coming Sunday as a breathing space.

But woman—sometimes—proposes and *le bon Dieu*—or perhaps man—disposes. Late on Saturday evening Samuel Oliver entered the family living-room.

"Susan," said he. "The preacher will come here to dinner to-morrow and I have asked Elder Sampson same time, and I guess two of preacher's friends are coming too."

Susan made no reply. Her thoughts had taken wing to the larder, where a substantial meat pie with thick jelly and crisp sweet crust was destined for the Sunday meal. But that she could not set before the preacher, the presiding elder, and the preacher's friends. So, whilst other folks, dressed in their best, were enjoying the beautiful Sabbath day, she would have to clean chicken, to bake and to stew over the hot stove! And she so longed for a little rest on this one day! Her unusual silence caused her husband to turn from gazing out of the window and to address her again.

"You don't object, Susan, surely?"

"Oh no," said Susan faintly. Being a good housewife, of course she was pleased to welcome her husband's guests. But her voice trembled and tears of disappointment filled her eyes. "I don't feel bad about staying home from meeting, for of course I can't go if four people come to dinner." The tears and the disappointment were not noticed by Samuel, and so unusual were they in his good and obedient wife that he would scarcely have known how to treat them had he noticed them.

So early the next morning Susan began her labours, trying to feel a little honoured that she was permitted to spread the feast for the preacher, presiding elder, and their friends; but an unwonted feeling of rebellion that she should have to give up this one day in seven arose in her soul, and wiped out the honour.

The guests arrived, and Samuel, who had, of course, attended the morning service, enjoyed the further advantage of listening to the words of wisdom that fell from the lips of the divines whilst Susan had to be satisfied with the crumbs she gathered as, with red face and perspiring brow, she laid the cloth and set before the company the tempting viands she had prepared. As the meal progressed she was duly complimented, and her good housewifery highly commended, but somehow the words of praise failed to touch the right spot, and fell flat. In her journeys to and from the kitchen to the table, she had been able to catch a little of the weighty conversation going on, and her attention had been arrested by a woman's name; a woman of whom she had vaguely heard, but of whom she knew nothing definitely, for her work was only just beginning. She was a pioneer advocate of the rights of women, and men everywhere were indignant that their superiority should be questioned by this daring innovator and member of the "inferior sex." The preacher, who had thoroughly enjoyed his well-prepared dinner, had inveighed against this masculine "she," and had contrasted the authoress with Samuel Oliver's wife, greatly to the said authoress's discredit. Jest and wit, sarcasm and innuendo at the latter's expense were bandied from mouth to mouth, and Scripture was quoted to prove masculine superiority and feminine inferiority.

Susan however, began dimly to comprehend that there was justice, truth and right in this New Woman's propaganda, despite the fact that the divines were dead against her doctrines, which they lashed and withered with their powerful masculine arguments.

"A woman's proper place is the kitchen," proclaimed the preacher. "She is in her right place there, she belongs to it. Does not Scripture plainly prove my statement?" he questioned as he regarded the assembly. Samuel Oliver and his guests unanimously agreed, and appeal was made to Susan for confirmation, but somehow she did not hear; her attention was claimed by one of the children.

"Tis for the sake of the women themselves that I say their right and proper place that God made 'em for is the home and the children," said Elder Sampson with conviction. "They are the weaker sex, they can't battle with the world like men—and life isn't a picnic for us—they ain't made that way. Now here before us we've got a shinin' example of what a woman oughter be; what now, Samuel, do your good wife say to these new-fangled ideas of women's equal rights with men? We'll jest take her opinion; she'll be with us, I know."

But Susan must certainly have become suddenly deaf; at any rate she made as though she had not heard a syllable, and then, remembering that something of importance required her instant presence in the kitchen, she left the company and passed by the back door out of the house. Arrived at the corner, where she was sure that none but God could hear or see, she raised her clenched fists to high heaven, and whilst the tears streamed down her hot face she cried aloud, "God bless the woman who asks for equal rights with men! God bless her, and let her have 'em."



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The Women's Social and Political Union.

OFFICE

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

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Founder and Hon. Sec.

Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,

Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. TUKE,

Joint Hon. Sec.

Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,

Organising Sec.

"We demand the Vote on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men."

VOTES FOR WOMEN

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND.

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 1911.

FAIR PLAY FOR OUR BILL.

We are within a week of the second reading of the Conciliation Bill, for which a large majority is assured. The Government will then be asked to grant the facilities necessary to enable Parliament to proceed with the Bill through all its stages. Not only did three Ministers—Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Runciman, and Mr. Birrell—express the opinion at the close of last Session that we might reasonably expect the provision of facilities this year, but the Prime Minister, just before the General Election, made the following pledge:—

The Government will give facilities in the next Parliament for effectively proceeding with a Bill which is so framed as to admit of free amendment.

Now, the essence of this pledge is that it shall be fulfilled this Session, and, indeed, a refusal to grant facilities this Session will be evidence that the Government do not intend to fulfil their pledge at all. This is a contention which can easily be proved.

In the first place, this Session is obviously the most

convenient of any Session of this Parliament for the passage of the Woman Suffrage Bill. Since the beginning of the Session business has proceeded in the most leisurely way. According to Mr. Snowden, M.P., "there was never any need for robbing private members of their time; the Government have not been at a loss to give a day to the Opposition when it was wanted for the purpose of further obstruction; nearly five whole days were given up to the discussion of a few unimportant supply estimates, and the Government seem to aid and encourage this frivolous waste of time." All this shows that in this first Session business is not unusually congested. The second Session is likely to be much more busy, for the discussion of the two great Bills for Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment will involve a heavier tax upon the time of Parliament than does the Veto Bill. Certainly, the Government will find it no easier to give facilities for the Conciliation Bill next year than to give them now, and therefore a refusal of facilities this Session is tantamount to a refusal of facilities during this Parliament.

For the third Session is, of course, too late. The Labour Party know that, and have insisted upon having the Bill for the reversal of the Osborne Judgment carried through the House of Commons this year. Why is the third Session too late? It is too late because of the Constitutional conditions created by the Government's Veto Bill. That Bill secures that, despite any opposition by the Lords, those Bills shall become law which are passed by the House of Commons in the first years of a Parliament. But it does not afford that protection to Bills which pass through the Commons in the later Sessions of the Parliament, i.e., within two years of a General Election. Such Bills can be held up by the Lords until after another General Election has taken place. And, be it noticed, the Veto Bill affords a positive encouragement to the Lords so to deal with Bills sent up to them by the Commons. The *Westminster Gazette* has virtually admitted this to be the case. In other words, it will be possible under the new system for the Lords to delay the passage of Bills, however popular, until after a General Election, without incurring any great censure, because the effect of the Government's Veto Bill is to admit, to confirm, and to re-establish the right of the Lords to do this. Accordingly, the Government are taking care to pack into this Session and next Session all the measures which they really desire to carry, or for reasons of expediency must carry before the next General Election. Bills which they do not deal with in these two Sessions are Bills which they do not expect to see on the Statute Book before the General Election.

The present Parliament will last until (at the expiration of two years from its first passage through the House of Commons) the Home Rule Bill becomes law. After that the cement which holds the present Administration together will have gone, for Mr. Redmond, having won Home Rule, will care no more to keep the Liberal Government in power: indeed, one foresees a possibility that he may actually turn them out of office on account of their education policy. Moreover, the enactment of the Home Rule Bill may itself involve such changes in the composition of the House of Commons as will necessitate an immediate dissolution of Parliament. That means (assuming the Lords to exercise their new statutory right of two years' delay) that all Bills which do not pass through the House of Commons in 1911 or 1912 will fail to become law in this Parliament. We do not intend that the Woman Suffrage Bill shall be one of those which perish in this manner.

Therefore we call on the Prime Minister to carry out the promise he has made to us by giving facilities for the Conciliation Bill this Session. A refusal to give facilities this Session we should take as a proof that the Government are determined so to engineer matters that, in spite of their pledge, women shall still be voteless when this Parliament comes to an end.

To this plain statement of our views it remains to add that we in this Union are very full of hope that the long battle for votes for women is now about to end in triumph. Prejudice itself can invent no reason why a friendly House of Commons should be denied the right to carry the Bill. Then why should it not be carried?

Christabel Pankhurst.

SOME AMERICAN IMPRESSIONS.

By E. Sylvia Pankhurst.

Just as in England and indeed in every country of the world, so in America the Cause of Women's Enfranchisement is marching on. The movement varies very greatly, however, from town to town, and State to State. Perhaps it is in New York City and Boston that the women are working with greatest energy, yet they have the longest and hardest fight before them, for the Eastern character, like that of the English, is conservative and stubborn. In America reforms usually come from the West. Wyoming, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, and Washington, the five States that have granted the vote to their women, are all in the West. Of these, Colorado and Washington are by far the most important.

The franchise was won in Colorado 16 years ago, but there was no great stir or struggle for it, and consequently there was not that great solidarity amongst large masses of women that we have developed here. Much criticism and abuse has been hurled by anti-suffragists against the women voters of Colorado, and though they form but a minority of the electorate, they are blamed for all the old abuses that existed before they were enfranchised. Nevertheless, the passage of many good laws may be directly attributed to their influence.

Active Women Politicians.

On visiting Denver, the capital of the State, I was at once impressed by the fact that, whereas all over America most of the people whom one met appeared to take very scant interest in legislative affairs, the men speaking of them with contempt and the women usually ignoring them unless directly questioned, here in Colorado every woman appeared to understand politics, and almost all were interested in some particular measure or measures of social reform. Instead of the usual buzz of small talk about the weather, dress, and one's neighbour, at the receptions at which I was present here everyone was talking of legislation.

Whilst in the city I was invited by the women members of the Legislature to visit the State House. The Speaker then asked me to address the House, and to tell them of our great English women's movement.

In Washington State the franchise was only won a year ago, but the women fought a long, brave fight to obtain it, and already have made a striking use of their new-found power, having recalled several corrupt public officials by means of the referendum.

This year the Legislatures of four States have passed Votes for Women Bills, and, according to their constitutional law, the question will be submitted to a referendum vote of the electors. These four are also all Western States. Oregon and Nevada are both sparsely populated, but the enactment of women's suffrage in the great States of California and Kansas would count for much.

California's Need.

The need for the reform in California is very urgent. In the first place, some of its laws are grossly unfair to women. For instance, there is that which deals with what is called the "community property." "All property acquired after marriage by either husband or wife otherwise than by gift, bequest, devise, or descent is community property," says the Civil Code, Section 164. "The wife," we are told, "has no present interest in such property. She has no estate in it." In the case of *Packard v. Arrellanes* (17, Cal. 525) the Supreme Court of California declared that the wife's interest in the community property, which, be it remembered, may be wholly or in part composed of her own earnings, "is a mere expectancy and possesses none of the attributes of an estate either at law or in equity." Again, in the case of *in re Burdick* 112, Cal. 387, it was decided that "the legal title to the community property is in the husband. He has the absolute dominion and control of it." A husband, as I was freely told, may collect his wife's wages. Again, the Civil Code, Section 167, says:—"The property of the community is not liable for the contracts of the wife made after marriage. But it can be made liable therefor by pledge or mortgage executed by the husband." It is provided by the Civil Code, Sec. 1402, that upon the wife's death the whole of the community property shall be the husband's, but that if the wife survive she shall only be entitled to one-half, and that her husband may will the remainder away from her if he pleases.

Women's wages in California, as everywhere, are far lower than they ought to be and, added to this, the factory Acts for their protection are inadequate and badly administered. Whilst I was in Los Angeles there was a strike of women engaged in the fruit-canning industry. The employer had proposed a reduction of their already low wages, which the workers had refused to accept. If the women lost the battle and were replaced by others they could never hope to obtain work at any other trade, for their hands had been terribly cut and maimed by the machinery, and most of them had lost several fingers.

In San Francisco, where the Suffragists seemed to me to be showing more energy than in Southern California, the newspapers were full of revelations in regard to the awful white slave traffic, the kidnapping and torture of helpless girls, and the impunity with which these abuses were carried on with the virtual sanction of corrupt officials. The women of California have much indeed to do!

Women's Power in Kansas

The women of Kansas have already far greater power than their sisters in most of the States. They vote for the school committees and municipal councils. The town of Hunnewell has just elected a woman, Mrs. Ella Wilson, to be its mayor, and, declaring that the management of the saloons, dancing and "pool" halls is discreditable to the town, she has, in her turn, appointed Mrs. Rose Osborn to be chief of police, in order that she may help her to abolish abuse.

Kansas is fortunate in having a number of women in its capital city, Topeka, who thoroughly understand politics and are skilful and energetic lobbyists. Lobbying is most necessary in America, and in many places it is unfortunately less well done than here.

The Temperance women are also especially strong in Kansas. This year they have decided to devote all their energies to securing the vote.

All over America the Suffragists declare that they have gained hope and inspiration from our own great British movement. In the early days of our long struggle it was we who drew our inspiration from them. Our movements act and react on each other. We may spur each other on to renewed zeal. We and the world have much to gain from our joint effort.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

The following list of contributions includes all the offerings received at the Treasury on March 30, but not all those received on March 31. During these two days the Self-Denial Collecting Cards which had been sent out to the members, were pouring back again by every post in such numbers that it was almost impossible to keep pace with the task of tabulating them. Next week's statement will include those receipts of March 31 which are not acknowledged this week, owing to the great pressure upon our space.

Women in ever-growing numbers are becoming conscious of the fact that the fundamental cause of very much human misery and degradation is the economic helplessness of women, which is an inherent result of their political helplessness. They are beginning to realise that it is useless to dribble away their money in subscriptions to political and philanthropic societies which are playing at reform, while the first step to real reform is to unshackle the hands of those who are the moral half of the community, of those who by very virtue of their sex are specially fitted to deal with the problems affecting human life and human welfare. Many women have made up their minds to "Concentrate on 1911," as they were advised to do last year by a member of the Cabinet. They are concentrating not only all their thought, all their will, all their energy, and all their leisure; they are concentrating also all their available cash on The Vote in 1911. And not only women. I have received a generous donation recently from a man to be acknowledged "Concentrate on 1911."

An invalid has sent in her self-denial card. She has collected £2, and in addition she sends her own savings, not during Self-Denial Week, but during the whole of the preceding year. These savings amount to £10. She writes:—

I also enclose £10, the result of my own self-denial—for not only have I denied myself during Self-denial Week, but during the whole of last year have I gone entirely without entertainments or places of amusement of any kind. This money I now send to the cause. To realise how much this has been a denial to me, one must try to imagine my life—the life of an invalid, although a young woman—one who can never walk out owing to weak spine, but can only go out on the finest of days in bath-chair or carriage. One can then realise that to give up all concerts, theatres, entertainments has been to me a greater denial than it would be to others stronger and able to go about and see more of the world. Yet I would have you believe that this has been to me, at one and the same time, a great self-denial and a great pleasure, in that I could do this for the greatest of all causes—the honour and freedom of the women of this country.

It is this enthusiasm and pure love of a great cause that enable women who are denied the riches of this world to put together a great Campaign Fund.

E. P. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

March 30 to March 31.

Already acknowledged	£ s. d.	Miss Winifred Good	£ s. d.
A. B. Hunt, Esq.	0 5 0	Miss K. A. Clarke	0 1 4
Miss Lillian George	0 2 6	Miss G. Kemp-Gee	0 3 6
G. F. von Dommer, Esq.	0 10 6	Miss M. B. Blomfield	1 0 0
Mrs. Henryson Caird	2 0 0	Miss A. Dickenson	0 4 3
Miss A. Donald	2 0 0	Miss M. B. Grievie	5 4 0
Mrs. McKirdy	5 0 0	Fraulein P. Eichberg	1 1 0
Miss Janie Whittaker	0 3 0	Miss Marie Collins	10 10 6
Lady Sybil Smith	1 1 0	Miss M. G. Houston	0 3 6
Per Miss S. A. Flatman—		Misses F. and E. Adkins	0 17 0
Indignant Cheltenham Friend	1 9 0	Miss Betty Copping	0 8 0
Mrs. Seaforth Mackenzie	0 1 6	Miss Nellie Blackledge	1 3 6
		Mrs. Hick	0 6 6
		The Misses Muskett	0 6 0
		Miss F. B. Rintel	0 12 0
		Miss V. Walker	1 0 0
		Miss F. Ward	1 0 0
		Miss Edith Marsh	1 0 0
		Mrs. E. A. Lees	0 10 0
		Miss S. K. Sazebly	1 0 0
		Miss M. A. Macdonald	3 0 0
		Miss A. M. Pool	0 3 0
		Mrs. McMurdy	0 2 6
		Miss Leslie Lawless	0 10 0
		Miss M. B. Vibert	0 12 0
		Miss A. Potter	0 10 0
		Miss C. Wright	0 7 0
		Miss C. Weston	0 5 6
		Miss M. V. Robinson	0 15 0
		Miss E. W. Thomson	0 8 0
		Miss M. E. Smith	0 3 0
		Miss N. Tebbutt	0 4 3
		Miss Janie Whittaker	2 0 0
		Mrs. Clara Strong	0 10 0
		Miss A. A. Vine	0 5 0
		Miss F. J. Shackleton	0 10 6
		Miss A. M. Shannon	0 15 6
		Mrs. C. H. Matland	2 16 6
		Miss E. Mackenzie	0 10 6
		Mrs. and Miss Squier	0 12 0
		Miss E. Wentworth	0 10 6
		Miss V. I. Meyer	0 12 7
		Miss Julia Pritchard	0 6 0
		Miss J. Wightman	0 4 0
		Miss F. Wightman	0 4 0
		Miss E. V. Slay	0 6 0
		Miss M. R. Jones	0 10 0
		Miss D. Bruce Brown	0 7 0
		Miss E. Clarence	1 10 6
		Miss A. M. Baker	2 1 4
		Miss L. M. Burgess	0 4 0
		Miss I. Chaloner	0 10 6
		Misses M. & S. Barker	0 13 1
		Miss L. B. Hamilton	0 2 6
		Mrs. E. Kerwood	1 3 0
		Mrs. Dora Curtis	0 4 3
		Miss M. Hollingsworth	0 14 0
		Miss Clayworth	0 7 6
		Mrs. Annie Coultate	0 17 0
		Miss E. L. Andrews	0 11 0
		"K. Y. Z."	0 7 0
		Miss Carnegie	1 1 0
		Miss M. Hodgson	0 3 0
		Miss Alexander	0 4 8
		Mrs. Alice Bowron	0 12 6
		Mrs. H. E. Davies	0 6 0
		Miss Jennings	0 4 4
		Mrs. A. Cato	0 11 0
		Miss E. K. Leischner	0 7 0
		Miss J. Le Mare	1 2 6
		Miss I. Oppenheim	0 15 6
		Miss K. M. Leggett	0 4 0
		Miss A. Riley	0 10 6
		Miss M. S. Moulden	0 5 0
		Mrs. Annie Midgley	0 4 0
		Miss Constance Lale	0 10 0
		Miss A. M. Wheeler	0 10 0
		Mrs. A. B. Wright	0 2 3
		The Misses Braekenbury	3 2 7
		Mrs. K. L. Kimmich	0 6 0
		Miss Constance Hare	0 6 0
		Mrs. Griffith-Marriott	0 3 0
		Miss E. H. Gordon	1 8 0
		Miss A. M. Harvey	0 1 0
		Miss C. T. Jones	0 7 6
		Mrs. T. M. Jones	0 5 0
		Miss Louise Edwards	0 15 6
		Mrs. J. d'Amindun	0 5 0
		Miss I. Catling	2 12 6
		Miss J. E. Green	1 0 0
		Mrs. A. L. Hansford	0 12 6
		The Misses Dixon	2 6 0
		Greenip and Swann	0 10 6
		Miss S. W. Crocker	0 10 6
		Miss Agnes Kelly	1 3 6
		Miss M. K. Key	2 6 3
		Miss Eleanor Green	0 7 0
		Miss Edith Bloomfield	0 12 2
		Miss Martha Garner	0 13 0
		Mrs. J. A. East	5 5 0
		Miss Daisy Coombs	1 6 0
		Miss G. A. Coombs	0 10 0
		Miss C. Coombs, L.L.A.	0 15 0
		Miss Caroline Downing	1 6 3
		Miss C. B. Andrews	0 10 0
		Mrs. L. Harrison	0 9 0
		Miss A. Hines	0 19 2
		Miss N. Heale	0 15 0
		Mrs. Blades	1 0 0
		Mrs. Holden	0 7 6
		Miss M. Brooks	0 6 0
		Mrs. A. Chester	0 3 0
		Miss J. Arroll	0 5 0
		Miss B. C. B. Forth	0 6 0
		Miss I. M. E. Cape	0 3 6
		Miss M. V. Aitken	0 17 6
		Miss A. Boman	0 10 0
		Miss Lucy Bruce	2 2 0
		Miss Annie Hyde	0 10 6
		Miss A. L. Gilmour	0 6 0
		Miss A. E. Billinghurst	0 12 6
		Mrs. Emily Bartlett	0 3 6
		Miss E. Bennett	0 6 6
		Miss A. B. Johnston	0 15 3
		Miss Caroline Finch	0 12 0
		Miss Dowson	1 0 0
		Miss M. Dorkins	0 5 0
		Mrs. Ethel Burrell	0 2 0
		Miss Gwyneth Keys	0 14 6
		Miss A. H. Ingleton	1 2 0
		Miss D. King Beed	0 7 9
		Miss H. V. Higgins	0 6 6
		Miss E. Ellison	0 3 6
		Miss A. R. Graham	0 4 0
		Miss F. Peck	0 12 6
		Miss Beatrice Fry	1 0 0
		Miss E. M. Hughesdon	0 10 0
		Miss N. B. Collicott	0 6 0
		Mrs. Hilda Guest	0 18 0
		Miss O. L. Gearing	0 10 0
		Mrs. M. I. Black	0 11 0
		Miss Frances Graham	1 7 0
		Mrs. Bond	0 3 6
		Mrs. Olivia Köhler	1 13 0
		Anon 4217	0 15 0
		Miss E. Annenberg	0 15 0
		Miss Coral Archer	1 0 0
		Per Miss D. Evans—	
		The Misses B. and G. Young	0 3 0
		Collections, Ac.	22 11 0
		Per Miss Flatman	12 14 0
		Total	£94,018 9 9

The item "Mrs. House, £2 10 0" entered in last week's issue for Self-Denial Fund, should have been "collected."

Cheques should be made out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and crossed "Barclay and Co."

* See "Laws of California Relating to Women and Children." Compiled by Elizabeth L. Kenney, William Chambers and Willoughby Rodman.

THE WOMEN TEACHERS AT ABERYSTWYTH.

Enthusiastic Meeting Demands Facilities for the Bill.

The vigour with which the women teachers took up the challenge of the men delegates at Aberystwyth and showed in unmistakable fashion their determination to win the vote has astonished their opponents. And there is little doubt that what was hailed at the time as a defeat will be the means of securing a much greater and more permanent victory.

After the matter had been twice brought before the Conference in the form of a resolution to suspend the standing orders and had been defeated, the women determined to hold a special sitting on Thursday evening, at which the question of woman suffrage only should be discussed. This meeting listened with enthusiasm to speeches from Sir James Yoxall, M.P., representing the Liberal Party; Mr. Goldstone, M.P., of the Labour Party; Mr. Ernest Gray, the Conservative candidate for West Ham; and from Miss Cleghorn herself, who, freed from the necessity of the impartiality which she had shown in the chair, expressed her keen conviction of the necessity of obtaining the vote—a conviction which had been greatly strengthened by what had taken place in the Conference. A resolution urging the Government to give facilities to the Bill was then carried without a dissentient voice.

But the matter will not end here. The women teachers throughout the Union have learnt a great lesson, which they will put into practice during the coming year. That lesson is that they cannot afford to leave the representation of their society so largely in the hands of men who will not look after their interests except when they are identical with their own.

The immediate and most important work which the women teachers now see before them is to make their power felt in a society of which they form the majority. To this end it is essential that women teachers should attend the quarterly meetings of the local associations, in order to take part in discussions and to give expression to their views when the suffrage question comes up at these meetings, as it may do at any moment and without previous notice. Every resolution carried locally in favour of woman suffrage will strengthen the hands of the women teachers, and will be forwarded to headquarters, to be sent down again for selection as items on the Conference agenda. In the N.U.T. women have, as members, equal rights with men, and it is in their hands, by active interest and hard work, to enforce their rights. It will be no small victory to have women's claim to citizenship endorsed by a great organisation of sixty thousand members, of whom the larger part are women who would be enfranchised under a Household Bill.

A Teacher's View.

The following account, sent to us by a correspondent, explains the proceedings at the Conference:

Although in the Press reports the note of defeat is insisted on, women members of the Union regard the situation as distinctly promising. At this conference a larger number of women delegates were present than ever before; the actual numbers were 500 women, 1,300 to 1,500 men. The usual course of procedure with regard to business for Conference is as follows:—Local conferees meet, consider, and send up resolutions to the executive at Russell Square; these are printed on agenda and sent in January to local centres, who are asked to select six of these resolutions for priority in conference. Should anything of supreme importance in the educational world occur the executive move to take this before business on agenda.

The resolution for Woman Suffrage was not on the original agenda, but so many letters were received from women asking that this question should be considered that in March the executive met and passed the resolution by a large majority; it was printed on the agenda, but too low down to be included in business discussed at this conference. For this reason the executive introduced a motion to suspend standing orders in order to discuss the Woman Suffrage question. During Friday, Saturday, and Sunday before the business of the conference began a vigorous campaign was carried on by anti-suffragists, who asked delegates to vote against the amendment for two reasons: (1) No politics ought to be discussed in conference. (An absurdity, since politics, but not party politics, are always discussed.) (2) As the motion was not previously discussed in local associations it was unconstitutional on the part of the executive to bring it forward.

On Monday a meeting of women delegates was held, at which the resolution was put and carried unanimously.

An inner group, composed of representative women from all over England, privately decided if the motion was defeated on Wednesday to raise it again, since they found, on referring back to standing orders, that if forty delegates signed for a motion the president was bound to accept it. Though fully realising how unpopular such an action would prove with the conference, they determined, if necessary, to adopt it. Miss Byett was asked to move the amendment.

The scene on Wednesday was even worse than was anticipated; the disorder was so great that but for Miss Cleghorn's tact and calmness Mr. Croft would not have been given a hearing at all. In marked contrast to the rowdiness of the men was the admirable restraint of the women. The vote was taken and the motion defeated. A notice of motion for suspension of standing orders for the following day, signed by forty women delegates, was immediately handed in to the President. When Miss Cleghorn announced that a second resolution to suspend standing orders would be moved by Miss Byett next day, the announcement was met by an amazed silence

on the part of the opposition. One man exclaimed, "By Jove, that is smart!"

On Thursday morning Miss Cleghorn appealed for fair play, and the women's chosen representative put the resolution again before the Conference. This time there was much less opposition. The speaker asked the men to give a straight vote on the women's subject, not on the question of agreement with the executive. After a touching appeal from Mr. Gwilliam not to go back on their previous decision the vote was taken, and lost. A division was then demanded by the women, not because they were in doubt as to the result, but so that women members of the Union all over the country might know how their representatives used the votes entrusted to them. Result:—For suspension, 12,276; against, 40,653.

A crowded meeting of women delegates discussed the question of Woman Suffrage on Thursday night. This meeting was remarkable for unity of feeling and intense earnestness. A resolution was passed asking the Government to grant such facilities that the Woman Suffrage Bill might pass into law this session, and members of the executive who were present pledged themselves to send it round for discussion in every local centre at an early date. Copies of the resolution were sent to the Premier and to the Press.

THE BATTLE WON.

The *Cambrian News*, in the course of a leading article, says:—

"The battle of women's enfranchisement has been won. . . . The injustice done to women is incredibly great in many directions, and that injustice will largely remain as long as sheer brute force rules this free, religious, civilised and educated country. Women have been degraded by that ancient rule of brute force to an extent that they themselves do not realise. Marriage has become a trade to women, and millions of them chiefly depend for maintenance on their sex and all that it means. There is, happily, a rapidly increasing number of women who are now engaged in industrial occupations, and who discharge their duties as efficiently as men discharge them. . . . Perhaps the greatest wrong of all is that mere sex decides how estates, titles and certain rights and privileges shall descend, as females are excluded from succession, except to the Crown. During the past twenty or thirty years the enfranchisement of women has made great progress not only in this country, but in many others, and the rate of progress will be accelerated as brute force drops into the background of national life. We do not believe in the physical or mental inferiority of women." The same paper gives a long and excellent report of Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting at Aberystwyth on April 15.

THE IDRIS GIRLS' STRIKE.

A huge procession of girls engaged at Idris Mineral Water Works, backed up by the men of various trade unions, marched from Camden Town to Trafalgar Square on Saturday afternoon to hold a mass meeting and explain the strike to the general public. Miss Mary MacArthur introduced the speakers, the first of whom was Mrs. Annie Lowin (the president of the trade union of the Idris girls), whose dismissal was the cause of the strike. In very forceful, simple language she told the audience the reason of the strike, and of past injustices which led up to the action of the Union. The support and cheers given by the girls and men, and the firm determination of the girls to see the whole affair through, made a great impression on the huge crowd. The Secretary of the Union sang a strike song, in which the crowd joined. Mr. Lansbury, M.P., roused great feeling by a speech, in the course of which he referred to the recent procession of bishops and clergy from Trafalgar Square and asked where were the bishops that day? He wanted to say to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Archbishop of Westminster, the President of the Wesleyan Conference, and all the leading ministers in London what the conditions were under which these girls and women worked. Speeches were also made by some of the strikers, and a resolution expressing sympathy with the strikers and a hope that a successful settlement would be speedily arrived at was carried with great enthusiasm.

MRS. PANKHURST IN WALES.

In the last week of July and the first week of August, Mrs. Pankhurst intends to take a motor tour to the chief Welsh watering-places. Among places to be visited are: Llandudno, Rhyl, Colwyn Bay, Aberystwyth, Llandrindod Wells, and Tenby. It is hoped that a great many members will arrange to take their holiday in these places, and help to make everyone of the meetings a great success. Such a campaign ought to have a very far-reaching effect, as people come to these watering-places from all parts of the country, and many from small places where they never have an opportunity of hearing Mrs. Pankhurst. As soon as any member has decided to spend her holiday in Wales, either at one of the above-named places or elsewhere, will she please communicate with the Welsh organiser, Miss Rachel Barrett B.Sc., 46, Clarence Place, Newport, Mon.

INTERVIEWS.

In reply to a deputation of the local W.S.P.U., Mr. Hildred Carlile, M.P. for Mid Herts, stated he had always been in favour of Woman Suffrage, and would certainly support a resolution to give further facilities to the Conciliation Bill after its second reading on May 5.

Mr. Newton, M.P., in reply to a deputation at the Grand Hotel, Clacton-on-Sea, last Thursday, promised to vote for the Bill at its second reading, and to assist its further progress through Parliament.

TAX RESISTANCE.

One of the weapons of opposition which will be employed by women will be "tax resistance." Those who are proposing to do this will do well to make themselves acquainted, as far as possible, with the law on the question, and we recommend them to apply to the offices of the Women's Tax Resistance League at 10, Talbot House, St. Martin's Lane, W.C., whose secretary, Mrs. Kington Parks, will be pleased to supply them with information.

WOMEN ON LOCAL BODIES.

Miss Louisa Dympha Ellis has been appointed chairman of the Brentford Board of Guardians. She was appointed to serve on the Board eighteen years ago and has held the post ever since. Writing of her appointment a correspondent says: "The honour just conferred upon her is thoroughly well deserved, and as the first lady to become chairman of a Board of Guardians in England, Miss Ellis may safely be trusted to discharge the duties with credit and dignity."

Miss M. E. James has been elected chairman of the Bethnal Green Board of Guardians. She is the only woman chairman of any guardians' board in London. At the Vestry at Deeping St. James, South Lincoln, Isabella, Marchioness of Exeter, has been, for the twelfth time, unanimously elected churchwarden of the parish.

A PRESS OPINION.

Women are counted as being more emotional than men, and certainly some of them have evinced a passion in their politics only comparable to that of their religion. But at an election time the men outstep the women in emotionalism, and go crazy for a candidate or a party. The proportion of women who penetrate into the crowds to-day is larger than ever; they are taking an increasing interest unquestionably in the affairs of the country.

—Glasgow Weekly Mail.

"MR. —"

The following story is from the *Putney News Letter*: "A Barnes lady, whose sympathies are distinctly Suffragist, saw in the *Daily News* a coupon which people who had recently removed were invited to fill, giving their new address, with a view to their votes being secured during a Parliamentary election. The sex of those appealed to not being stated, the lady who writes a fine, masculine hand, filled the coupon and sent it in. Very soon a polite note came from the Liberal Central Office, 'regretting to find that your name is not on the register in the borough referred to,' and suggesting that the writer should look carefully after 'his' vote in Barnes. The lady replied in the same style as before, saying she would be very glad if the Liberal party would help her to obtain a vote in Barnes. The next development was the appearance of a very nice young man from the Central Office, who—to judge from appearances—had come to smoke a friendly pipe with 'Mr. —' and to talk over the matter. When he knew the real facts he scarcely knew whether to laugh or be cross; but he wisely preferred the former alternative."

"PURPLE AND WHITE AND GREEN."

There's hope abroad in the nations,

A flag o'er the earth unfurled;

There are protests and agitations

And calls from a restless world.

There's a deathless army bearing

The sword of the Spirit keen,

And the uniform they're wearing

Is Purple and White and Green.

There's a call to every woman;

There's prejudice, pride, and scorn,

Prison and treatment inhuman,

And arrogance all to be borne.

Though dark the sky with thunder

The bow of promise is seen,

And the bow of promise we're under

Is Purple and White and Green.

A glorious day is breaking,

There's light o'er the troubled sea,

The tyrants of earth are quaking

For woman at last is free.

A glorious dawn of morning

With a crown of golden sheen

And a halo her brow adorning

Of Purple and White and Green.

WILLIAM MACDONALD,

Dundee.

CHELTEMHAM BY-ELECTION.

Polling To-day, Friday, April 28.

Candidates.—Agg-Gardner (C.), Major Mathias (L.), W.S.P.U. Committee Room, 64, High Street. W.S.P.U. Organiser.—Miss Flatman. Results in Dec. 1910.—R. Mathias (L.), 3,846; Viscount Duncannon (L.U.), 3,753.—Major, 93.

The strenuous campaign of the Women's Social and Political Union must have left no elector (indeed, no man, woman or child) in the constituency in doubt as to the reason of their fight against the Government nominees. This campaign would immediately have been withdrawn had Major Mathias secured from the Government a pledge for facilities for the passage of the Woman Suffrage Bill. The fight is now drawing to a close, but nothing has occurred to alter the situation, and the opposition to the Government nominee is therefore being continued up to the very last moment.

The by-election workers, reinforced by Miss Brackenbury, Miss Marsh, Miss Ainsworth, Miss Douglas Smith, and Miss Geraldine Lyster, with Miss Vera Holme in charge of the Union's motor-car, have been hard at work up to the last, and meetings, indoor and out, have been assiduously held. The audiences have been most attentive, and evidently fully realized and appreciated the points of the speakers. No corner of the constituency has been unexplored, and meetings have been held everywhere.

Two excellent indoor meetings were held at Charlton Kings, addressed by Miss Brackenbury and Miss Flatman. The afternoon one, for women only, was notable for the very keen interest taken and the number of questions asked. The evening meeting was crowded to the doors, and Miss Billing addressed two meetings outside, the first for the younger members of the community who were not admitted to the hall, and the second, at the close of the indoor meeting, for those who, like *Oliver Twist*, asked for more. A large meeting at the King's Hall, addressed by Miss Brackenbury, Miss Flatman and Miss Marsh also roused great interest, and people remained after the close of the meeting to argue out the various points. Comic relief to the situation has been provided by Mrs. Mathias (the unseated member's wife) and her children driving through the constituency in a motor-car holding a bannerette with the wording "Vote for Daddy's Brother," and circling round and round the W.S.P.U. meetings, footing their motor horn, while the Suffragists have had a little bannerette in green, on which, in purple lettering, is "Don't Vote for Daddy's Brother, but for all his sisters, his cousins, and his aunts, by keeping the Liberal out!"

Tremendous enthusiasm marked the return visit of Mrs. Ethel Lawrence to Cheltenham, on Monday evening last. The Town Hall was packed to overflowing with an eager, expectant audience. The corridors were filled with people unable to gain admittance, and many had to be turned away; all the reserved seats were taken quite early in the evening. Instead of the expected interjections of the Liberals, peace reigned supreme, questions only being put at the close of the meeting. Numbers gave in their names for stewarding and helping with the work, and many members were made. Miss Flatman was in the chair, and the meeting was notable for the many men who came in at the end of their own political meetings. One questioner asked why the vote of the women was not taken at all W.S.P.U. meetings. This Mrs. Lawrence quickly decided to do there and then, and she asked all the women in favour to hold up their hands. Practically all the women did so, and when asked for "those against," one woman only half-heartedly held up her hand. The questioner then challenged Mrs. Lawrence to take a vote of the men. This she promptly did, and again practically all hands were raised. "Those against" were represented by only four men. Cheltenham has been won over!

Miss Christabel Pankhurst is holding a Mass Meeting at the Town Hall this evening (Friday).

FACTS* FOR MR. WINSTON CHURCHILL.

We propose to publish each week a few facts from the Pamphlet containing the evidence collected by the Conciliation Committee with regard to the treatment of the Women's Deputations of last November.

MISS ELIZABETH FREEMAN. (NO. 113.)

I saw one policeman deliberately break the bamboo pole of a bannerette across a woman's shoulder. Almost before I knew it I had been pushed and knocked about until I was at the forward end of the deputation, when my attention was drawn to a policeman thumping a woman in the small of the back with his doubled fist. Recognising the woman as Mrs. Cobden Sanderson I spoke to her, calling her by name, thinking the policeman would desert when he knew who she was, but he did not. Then I heard a voice on my left saying to an angry-looking policeman, "Remember you are a man to-day." He answered with an oath, and I saw that he had the leader of the deputation by the throat, pushing her head backward. Instantly I slipped the fingers of my right hand in his duty band and pulled his arm down. He in turn addressed his attention to me, giving my arm and head a sudden twist and turning his own arm down, so that I found myself on my knees and was kicked in the abdomen, and also in the back, by those at the back of me.

An inspector waved his arms wildly and told the police officer to take me into custody, and he did so, taking care to take me by the arm which was hurt, and giving it an extra twist. As we turned the corner of Downing Street I heard a friend call out, "Haw! Lady Betty!" (a nickname), and a

little further down the street the officer told me to go home, and he returned to Downing Street.

I then saw a large, impressive-looking man, wearing a Men's League button, and I asked him to help me to a place where I could get my breath. To my astonishment, he put his hand on my face and with full force pushed me back into the seething vortex of women, policemen in uniform, and plain clothes detectives. I was afterwards rescued by a friend and taken to a safer spot. Returning again after a few minutes, I saw a Canadian friend, Miss Richardson (See No. 42), a woman with grey hair, and whose age ought to have commanded a certain respect, hurled to the ground and almost run over by a motorcar. I saw a policeman grip another member of the deputation (an American) by the breasts and twist them in a disgusting and brutal manner. Some of the language used by the policemen was beyond description. One gripped me by the thigh, and I demanded that he should cease doing such a hateful action to a woman. He said, "Oh, my old dear, I can grip you wherever I like to-day."

Had I known it would have been so important I should have taken the names of some of these men. My clearest recollection in this connection is that the police of Division . . . were the most disgustingly brutal.

* From "The Treatment of the Women's Deputations by the Metropolitan Police." To be obtained from The Woman's Press, 256, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C. Price 6d. net.

SOME PRESS VIEWS.

Grant the franchise to women—grant it to them. Rather go down upon our knees and beg them to rescue and save us from the wretched fraud and imposture which we are humorous enough to call self-government. Man has shown his incompetence to govern the world, more especially in regard to his laws relating to women and children. It is in the highest interests of the human race to grant women the vote. . . . To affirm that any besotted fool over twenty-one years of age, with enough intelligence to keep out of a lunatic asylum, enough cunning to keep out of gaol, and enough literary ability to make a cross, with a little expert assistance, has a right to a voice or a vote in the government of the country, because, forsooth! he is a man, and to deny that right to the most intelligent, cultured, conscientious, and patriotic woman who pays taxes, because she is a woman, is a piece of fantastic folly, foolish enough to make the angels weep.

Canada-Jamaica West Indian Magazine.

NOVEMBER, 1910.

The women, many of them old in years, were hurled to the ground again and again. Sometimes one would be thrown down and others in the crowd would fall upon them with terrible results. As one report says, "They were thrown down, cuffed, pushed, gripped, pinched, battered, bruised, thrown back again and again by police and rowdies." These women were not lawbreakers or rowdies, but women from the highest circles; literary women, women of birth and rank, professional women, women of world-wide reputation, asking and seeking only their constitutional rights. But in such fashion is Britain turning its gentlewomen into warriors, for after the treatment they received from the police the women did go and follow the historical custom of rebellious subjects and throw brickbats through the windows of their recreant Ministers.

Canada-Jamaica West Indian Magazine.

THE WAR CHEST.

Whatever may be said against the militant Suffragists as regards their methods, it must be admitted that they are animated by that fine sincerity which manifests itself in liberal giving of money. At a meeting in connection with the Women's Social and Political Union



AN UNPREMEDITATED SNAPSHOT.

LITTLE GIRL (reading "Votes for Women" for April 14): "Did he like his Easter egg, Mummy?"

in London [Albert Hall, London, March 23] a collection was taken, and the result was between £5,000 and £6,000, thus bringing up to £95,000 the contributions towards the £100,000 Fund. When people give money in this style they are clearly in earnest, and neither ridicule nor denunciation is likely to be anything but a gift of oil for the fire. Enthusiasm may be, as some philosophers say, unreason, but it often is a conquering force.

—Sunderland Echo.

WOMEN'S VOTES.

Results just to hand from over a score of Western and Middle Western cities [of America] where municipal elections on various subjects are being held show that the women voters have scored notable victories. In every city the successful candidates owed their election to the women's votes.

—Yorkshire Daily Post.

THE W.S.P.U. "CHAUFFEUR."

We may or may not agree as to the merits or demerits of the Suffragette propaganda, but it is hard not to admire the skilful driving and smart uniform of a motorist supporter of their cause. I, like many others, could not help commenting on the way the lady in question, seated at the wheel of a handsome car, negotiated the traffic in the Strand the other day, garbed in a workmanlike costume. The thoroughfare is, especially in the neighbourhood of Charing Cross Station, always crowded, and requires a careful and experienced driver—the qualifications undoubtedly possessed by the lady in question. As a member of the fair sex has now adopted the uniform of a chauffeur, one wonders if women will in the future be the serious competitors of men as paid drivers of motors.

—The Court Journal.

"BY ALL PARTIES."

When asked for a word of personal approval for the *White Ribbon* columns he [the Hon. Alfred Deakin, Premier of the Australian Commonwealth up to 1910] immediately replied from a se-side resort in Victoria: "Woman Suffrage is not only permanently established in Australia, but accepted, approved and relied upon by all parties here."

—The White Ribbon.

A correspondent in MacGill (a woman engaged in lecturing) says that the injustice suffered by women is fast turning her into a Suffragette.

GOOD ADVICE.

Mrs. Ida Husted Harper, in *Harper's Bazaar*, recently, emphasized the great triumph that Woman Suffrage had won, in that Washington State had extended the franchise to women, and put "a fifth star on the blue field of the Woman Suffrage flag." She regretted that more of the States had not as yet done likewise, saying "what a wholly indefensible injustice is perpetrated in prohibiting women from any choice in their legislators, and placing this power entirely in the hands of men; and how much those women are lacking in a sense of responsibility and patriotism who are contented to accept this situation without protest or attempt to change it." She pointed out that the force which had prevented other States from following in the way which Colorado led in 1893, was political corruption. This force, which included the liquor interest, the corporations, and the party "machines," so evident in American politics, had opposed Woman Suffrage with might and main, not because the women enfranchised used their power badly, but because they used it too well. The women could not be bought up like the men. Although in Washington this force had kept women out for fourteen years at last the truth had prevailed and women had now given proof of magnificent power. Miss Harper gave an interesting summary of the position of Woman Suffrage in English politics, mentioning the disgraceful treatment of the Conciliation Bill. She truly said that Suffragettes here are not content with a nebulous promise of a Bill next year, which never comes. She advised Suffragists to keep well up in their subject-matter by reading the Suffrage papers, and mentioned *VOTES FOR WOMEN*. It was especially necessary to be fully abreast of all Suffrage news, because "the covert attacks continually made through the columns of the daily papers could be successfully met if the Suffragists would keep themselves informed as to the actual facts and follow them up without ceasing. More converts could be made in this way than through long articles and eloquent speeches." Advice which English Suffragettes as well as American ones would do well to follow!

"PHYSICAL FORCE"

One of the arguments raised against giving the franchise to women at the Conservative Junior discussion was that they were the weaker sex. This brought forth the rejoinder from the proposer of the measure that if they granted votes according to strength Sandow would be entitled to quite a large number.

—South Wales Daily Post.

HANDICAPPED.

A very interesting variety entertainment was given in the Burgh Hall, Hillhead, Glasgow, in aid of the cause of Women's Suffrage. In the meantime it is women's suffering. All that women want is "a fair field and no favour," but they are handicapped by being boycotted by the Press, with a few brilliant exceptions.—*Court Journal*.

"NOT A SUCCESS!"

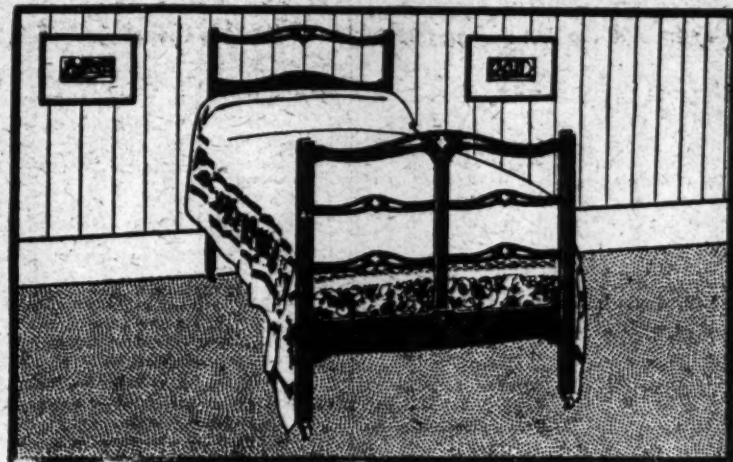
The only contributor to the *Great Eastern Railway Magazine*, the first number of which has just been published, who is not on the regular staff of the paper, is the writer of the woman's page. The Editor recently confessed he had tried to get this page written by a man (!), but it was not a success.

A WOMAN DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY.

Italy has always had her notable women, and, what is more, has usually recognised and honoured them. One of these, whose name is not so familiar as that of some others, is Laura Maria Caterina Bassi, who lived in the 18th century in the old university city of Bologna. When only 20 years of age the Senate presented her to a Chair of Philosophy in the university, she having won her degree or "laurea" in that subject. An old picture shows her delivering her thesis before all the principal personages of the city, "who did not know which to value most, the modesty of her quiet manner or the profundity of her intellect." She had previously been examined by five learned professors on the most weighty questions of philosophy. This was in 1732. "The citizens shared in the rejoicings in her honour." People came from distant countries to hear her lecture, and her teaching equalled that of the most famous professors. In addition to verse-writing, experiments in physics, and proficiency in the Greek language, this lady fulfilled worthily the duties of wife and mother, educating her 12 children herself. The evening before her death she lectured at the Accademia Benedettina. She died in 1788, and was buried in her doctor's robes with civic honours. An account of this interesting woman is found in Miss E. Coulson James's *Bologna: Its History, Antiquities, and Art*.

THE W.S.P.U. WAR CHEST.

Some consternation is evidently being caused in Glasgow by the withholding of subscriptions from charities by women. Circulars from the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow, soliciting subscriptions or donations appear to have been returned with the remark that until there are women on the Board all subscriptions will be withdrawn. This the *Daily Record and Mail* describes as "a momentous form of protest," pointing out that, while there has never been any lack of money for the Suffrage cause in Scotland, this is in a measure due to the transference of monies in whole or in part from local charities, and even from the Church. "While the Census is the latest move to assert civic equality, there has been, in Glasgow at any rate, a more momentous form of protest. Although not generally known, this is more far-reaching. It is the withholding of subscriptions from charity. . . . It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of pounds are being lost, the money being directed to provide the sinews of war for the Suffragists. . . . This diversion of money has been going on and augmenting recently. Many women, several not publicly associated with the cause, are curtailing—in some cases ceasing altogether—their donations to charities to swell what everyone conversant with the working of the organisations in Glasgow knows to amount in the aggregate to a princely total. . . . "Inquiries by the *Daily Record and Mail* would seem to indicate a general feeling locally among Suffragists in support of this directing of money from Church and charity to the exchequer of the propagandists of the cause."



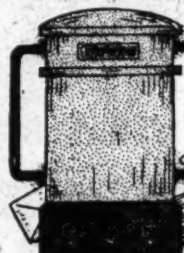
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OUR POST BOX.

THE N.U.T. CONFERENCE.

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.
Dear Sir,—Some members of the executive of the N.U.T. express surprise that so large a number as 25,000 young women teachers stay outside the Union. After the proceedings at Aberystwyth the reason surely is obvious. These young women teachers, who during the preparation for their life's work exhibit no inferiority of intellect, and usually prove better teachers than their male colleagues, decline to join the Union, whose men members unblushingly say that these young women are not as intelligent as themselves, and not as capable of responding to the demands of citizenship. It may surprise some of the men delegates to Conference to hear that some people think the staff of women teachers usually compares favourably for intelligence and personell with the staff of men doing similar work.—Yours, etc.,

ONE WILLING TO JOIN N.U.T. ON SELF-RESPECTING TERMS.

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.

Dear Sir,—I trust the women members of the N.U.T. will note with what uncompromising hostility the men delegates at Conference received a suggestion for the discussion of a mild resolution expressing sympathy with the unenfranchised members of their Union. One suspects the real opposition was dictated by masculine dominance and sex prejudice, though "No politics!" was the hypocritical cry. "No politics!" indeed, when for years the Union has been making a compulsory levy of 2s. per head for political purposes; established a political committee within the Union, paid the political expenses of five candidates to debate politics in Parliament, decided the political colour these candidates should assume, and created the post of political (Parliamentary) secretary, with a large salary attaching to the office, for one of these gentlemen whom the electors rejected. Did not these same gentlemen vote for the suspension of the standing orders at Conference to condemn the "Holmes" circular? Is not the gentleman who was so severely censured at Aberystwyth for allowing the issue of the circular connected with politics? Do the men teachers think that, without their political weapon of the vote, they could do anything to bring repentance to the mind, or lips, of the particular political magnate for whom they desire punishment? There are, Sir, 40,000 women members of the Union, who for many years have been paying somewhat handsomely for the politics enjoyed by their men colleagues. The proceedings at Aberystwyth have shown these women how grossly they can be misrepresented in the councils of their Union. I, Sir, am one of those who fully believed that when opportunity offered, our male

colleagues would prove fair-minded and just. I regret my trust has been misplaced. I sorrow for the men, not the women, for the latter will, I am sure, rise to the need of the hour.—Yours, etc.,
MARY SMITH.

"A correspondent, signing herself 'Tref-y-Clawdd,' writes that after reading the accounts of the N.U.T. Conference at Aberystwyth she has become more strongly convinced than ever of the great need for Votes for Women. As one who had thought one day of becoming a member of the N.U.T., she expresses her amazement at the attitude adopted at the Conference and the insulting ridicule hurled at the brave men and women who supported the Suffrage resolution. 'The respect which some men have for women is,' she says, 'a pretty theory often talked about but seldom practised in real life. What the women of England need to-day is true liberty, true equality, and I am fully convinced that the whole emancipation of womanhood depends upon her political and economical equality with her brothers, sons, father, and husband.'

A "CANVASS."

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.
Dear Sir,—The results of the two canvasses of the women municipal voters in South Paddington are most interesting. In the case of the W.S.P.U., the question submitted to the women is made public—it would be well if the Anti-Suffragists were equally candid. One is tempted to wonder if their question was of the same kind as one quoted recently by Lady Betty Balfour at a public meeting in this town, as illustrative of anti-suffrage methods:—"Are you in favour of handing over the government of this country to women who scratch policemen?" This question was received by her, and was used as the basis of a suffrage canvass. It is shameful that any organised body should seek to advance its "cause" by such dishonest means, and it is also foolish. "Magna est veritas et prevalebit."—Yours, etc.,
B. E. SCHUE.

AN APPEAL.

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.
Dear Sir,—As one who is deeply interested in the cause of "Votes for Women," and who is anxious that the Conciliation Bill should become law this session, I wish to point out that our righteous cause possesses a weapon that I venture to think has not been used to its full capacity, and that is the weapon of "All Prayer." May I ask all interested in the cause to pray at least twice each day until May 5, that the hearts of our rulers may be turned in the right direction by Him who can turn the hearts of men as "rivers of water"?—Yours, etc.,
MARY E. SHARMAN.

CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

Seven days more before the second reading of the Woman's Bill on May 5. Members who have not yet written to their members of Parliament asking them to support the Bill are urged to do so at once.

W.S.P.U. General Offices: 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

"London, without its Suffragette paper-seller would not be the place it is," said Miss Fankhurst at the Queen's Hall on Monday last, and now that summer weather is here, and London is already beginning to fill with Censorship visitors, it is most important that a special effort should be made to get the paper into the hands of entirely new readers. One of the best ways of doing this is by having sellers always on duty at the recognised paper pitches. There are now ten of these pitches in Central London, and for each one arrangements have been made for keeping the papers, so that sellers can go there direct and no time be wasted. The pitches are as follows:

Charing Cross, Victoria, Piccadilly, Tottenham Court Road, Oxford Circus, Solfridge's, The Bank, The House of Commons, London Bridge (5-8 p.m.), Marble Arch.

The pitches outside the House of Commons and at London Bridge have only been started this week, and in both places more sellers are specially needed. Although a promise of definite time on definite days is of immense help, it is not in any sense an essential. All sellers, however, uncertain or limited the time may be which they can give, are asked to communicate with Miss Helen Cragg, The Woman's Press, 155, Charing Cross Road.

BARNET.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Susan Watt, 13, Stratford Road. At the committee meeting on Tuesday last it was suggested that the local members should hold a Speakers' Class in Barnet as speakers are needed in this district; for the first of these meetings see programme. As the open-air meetings will now be held regularly on alternate Fridays in Barnet and New Barnet, the secretary hopes that new workers will volunteer to help. Hitherto the work has fallen always on the same members.

CHELSEA, BATTERSEA, KENSAL TOWN.

Shop and Office—308, King's Road. Hon. Secs.—Miss Harg and Miss Blacklock. Members will be interested to know that a letter from Mrs. Hunt, L.S.W.S., announcing that Mr. Hoare will support the Woman's Bill, appeared in the *Chelsea Mail*, of April 21. The open-air campaign opened well, with most attentive crowds, and a good sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Helpers for distributing literature are needed. Pricing for the Jumble Sale commences

on Tuesday, May 2. Will volunteers please come to the office on that and following days? Thanks to those who have so kindly sent gifts. There is still time to send more goods; china, ornaments, frames, and books are welcome. Mr. Victor Duval spoke to a large crowd at Battersea Park on Sunday. Miss Barwell was in the chair. Will members attend well next Sunday, when Miss Naylor speaks?

CLAPHAM.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Strong, 38, Kispeth Road, Lavender Hill, S.W. The campaign on Clapham Common opened very successfully. On Sunday, Miss Hicks made a splendid speech to a sympathetic audience. Papers sold out rapidly, and an excellent collection was taken, thanks to the members who attended in good numbers. All members and friends are reminded of the Jumble Sale in May. Parcels may be sent to Mrs. Bartlett, 34, Lamborne Road, Clapham, or to Mrs. Strong at above address. Will all those who can make a point of attending to-day (Friday) meeting at Mysore Road, opposite Battersea Town Hall.

CROYDON.

Office—2, Station Buildings, West Croydon. Tel. 333 Croydon (Nat.). Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Cameron-Swan and Miss Leslie Hall. Jumble Sale tickets, 2d. each, are on sale at the shop. Members willing to help are asked to be at 353, Benham Lane, to-morrow (Saturday) at 2 p.m. Contributions of clothing, etc., can be sent up to the last. The Monday evening and Wednesday afternoon parties are especially important now, as work must be done for the procession, it is hoped both will have a good weekly attendance. Will members please help advertise the Public Hall Mass Meeting on Thursday, May 4, 8 p.m. This must be made a great success. Gratefully acknowledged—Miss Doggett, shop decoration, 15, 1st St.; Miss O'Brien, 5a, 1st St.; Mrs. Harrison, 25, St. Typewriter, Furni, C. P. 2a. There will be an Exhibition and sale of blouses and summer frocks at Lady Meyer's. At Home on May 8, 3 p.m., small public Hall, also at the above office in the evening. Will members please persuade all their friends to come. Prices will be strictly moderate.

DULWICH.

Organiser: Miss Markwick, 26, Grove Vale, East Dulwich. Voters in this district have decided to write and also to see their member on behalf of the Women's Bill now before Parliament. Deputations are being arranged, and pressure is being brought to bear in every way upon the Member for this constituency. The organiser will see any members at the above address between 10 and 1 o'clock, or by appointment. Canvasers, paper-sellers and helpers generally are urgently needed. Many thanks to Miss Board for her contribution to the campaign fund. Other contributions will be gratefully received. A drawing-room meeting will be held, by

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(Regd.)

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LONDON MEETINGS FOR THE FORTHCOMING WEEK.

Day	Time	Location	Chair/Notes
Friday, 28	12.0 noon	Chelsea, Sloane Square	Miss Naylor
"	7.45 p.m.	4, Clements Inn, W.C.	Speakers' Class, Miss Rosa Lee
"	7.30 p.m.	Dulwich Library, Outdoor Meeting	Miss Naylor
"	7 p.m.	305, Fulham Road, S.W.	Members' Rally
"	8 p.m.	"	Annual Meeting
"	8 p.m.	Kensington, 17, Stanley Crescent	Drawing-room Meeting, Miss Brackenbury, Rev. E. Houslow
"	8 p.m.	Harrow Road, Prince of Wales (outside)	Miss Isabel Seymour
"	8 p.m.	Islington, Highbury Corner	Miss Peck
"	8 p.m.	Lavender Hill, Mysore Road, opposite Town Hall	Miss Heatley, Chair: Mrs. Barbell
"	7.30 p.m.	Lewisham, Catford Trust, Tannins Palmer's Green, Avondale Hall	Mrs. Bourrier and others
"	8 p.m.	Tufnell Park, Boston, Tube Station	Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Mrs. Lorisignol
"	8 p.m.	Battersea, Allwell Road	Chair: Miss Hilda Gargett
"	8 p.m.	Chiswick, Fire Station	Miss Bonwick, B.A. Chair: Miss Bertha Brewster
"	8 p.m.	High Barnet, Market Place	Miss Barwell, Chair: Miss Archer
"	8 p.m.	Ilford, Balfour Road	Miss Blundell
"	8 p.m.	Ilford, Town Hall (outside)	Mrs. Brindley
"	8 p.m.	Islington, Holloway Road (Jones Bros.)	Miss Naylor
"	8 p.m.	Kilburn, Messina Avenue	Miss Vera Westworth
"	8 p.m.	Lewisham, Shop, Rally	Miss Bonwick, Chair: Miss Grant
"	8 p.m.	North Islington, corner of Stroud Green and Hanley Roads	Miss Naylor, Miss Bertha Brewster
"	8 p.m.	Richmond, Heron Court	Members and Friends
"	8 p.m.	Thornton Heath, 363, Beecham Lane	Miss Constance Hopkins, Miss Darton
"	8 p.m.	Walthamstow, Church Hill	Miss Rickard, Chair: Miss Redshaw
"	8 p.m.	Woolwich (near Town Hall)	Mr. Robert Ryan, Chair: Miss Martin
"	7.30 p.m.	"	Miss C. D. Townsend, Chair: Miss Cox
Sunday, 30	3 p.m.	Battersea Park	Miss Naylor, Chair: Miss Barwell
"	3 p.m.	Brockwell Park	Miss Leonora Tyson
"	3 p.m.	Clapham Common	Miss Vera Westworth, Chair: Miss Redshaw
"	3 p.m.	Baling Common	Mrs. Arnold Sennett, Chair: Miss Meakin
"	11.30 a.m.	Hampstead Heath	Dr. Gordon Clark, Chair: Miss Lambert
"	2.15 p.m.	Lewisham, Hilly Fields	Miss Kelly, Miss Oakley
"	3 p.m.	Stratham Common	Miss Daisy S. Gibbs
"	3 p.m.	Wimbledon Common	"
Monday, 1	8 p.m.	Battersea, Mossbury Road, Lavender Hill	Miss Richards, Chair: Mrs. Strong
"	8 p.m.	Chelsea, World's End	Miss Naylor
"	8 p.m.	Crouch End, 28, Weston Park	Committee Meeting
"	8 p.m.	Hampstead Road, Golden's Statue	Chair: Miss E. Thompson
"	8 p.m.	London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus	Mrs. Patrick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Fankhurst, L.L.B., Miss Sylvia Fankhurst
"	8 p.m.	Westminster, Warwick Street and Tachbrook Street	Miss Kinkaid, Mrs. Robson
"	8 p.m.	West Croydon, 2, Station Bldgs.	Working Party
"	8 p.m.	Chelsea, 57, Oakley Street, At Home	Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Miss Mayo, Mr. Cecil Chapman, Chair: Dr. Alice Bernhard
"	4 p.m.	"	Miss Bonwick, Miss Barwell
"	8 p.m.	"	Committee Meeting
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Martin
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Blundell
"	8 p.m.	"	Members' Rally
"	8 p.m.	"	Mrs. Hugo Ames
"	8 p.m.	"	Speakers' Class
"	8 p.m.	"	Committee Meeting
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Kinkaid, Miss Ellison
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Haslam
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Vera Westworth
"	3.30 p.m.	"	L. A. Alberkey-Jones, Hon. K.C., M.P., Miss Evelyn Sharp, Chair: Miss Gertrude Anderson, M.D.
"	7.30 p.m.	"	Miss Myers
"	8 p.m.	"	Mrs. Drummond
"	4 p.m.	"	Members' Meeting, Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Foley
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Grant
"	8 p.m.	"	Rose Party
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Brewster, Chair: Miss Robson
"	8 p.m.	"	Mass Meeting
"	8 p.m.	"	Drawing-room meeting, Miss Macnamara, Hostess: Miss Humby
"	7.30 p.m.	"	"
"	8 p.m.	"	Mrs. Patrick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Fankhurst and others
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Naylor
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Richards
"	7.45 p.m.	"	Speakers' Class, Miss Rosa Lee
"	8 p.m.	"	"
"	8 p.m.	"	Mrs. Fankhurst, Mrs. Patrick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Fankhurst, L.L.B.
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Isabel Seymour
"	7.30 p.m.	"	"
"	8 p.m.	"	Miss Balfour Guthrie, Mrs. Keeling
"	12.30 noon	"	"

During May the Monday At Homes will be held in the London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus, the Queen's Hall not being available.

kind permission of Dr. Helen Gordon Clarke, at 401, Old Kent Road, S.E., on May 27, at 3 p.m.

KALING.

Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Finlay, 31, Warwick Road. Mrs. Fraser Forbes, 73, Argyle Road. Miss Coombs, of Chiswick, and Mr. Kennedy, of Baling (chair), held the attention of a large and interested audience at the second open-air meeting on the Common on Sunday. Miss Furtie kindly taken over the chairmanship since Miss Fickian's departure. Members are earnestly asked to come forward and help in carrying on the work. Mr. Chambers has sent 1,000 copies of the leaflet "A Message from the W.S.P.U.," written by an Kaling resident.

FULHAM AND PUTNEY.

Shop—908, Fulham Road. Hon. Secs.—Miss L. Gutter and Mrs. Roberts. Members are urged to attend the annual members meeting to-night (Friday) at which the committee and officers for the ensuing year will be elected, and future plans discussed. Tickets for the Kensington Town Hall meeting on May 5, for the M.P.U. meeting at Caxton Hall, and for the Albert Hall are now on sale at the shop. Thanks to Mrs. and Miss Shollish who have made no less than six batches of marmalade this year for sale in the shop. Mrs. Bell sends 2s. 6d. towards shop-fund as fine for unavoidable absence from shop-meeting.

GREENWICH AND DEPTFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss R. M. Billingham. 7, Oakcroft Road, Blackheath, S.E. Members and friends are asked to help in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN and distributing leaflets at Woolwich Town Hall to-morrow (Saturday). Jumble articles should be moved against the next sale. Many thanks to Mrs. Alexander for purchase and distribution of deputations leaflets. Directors and ratepayers of Greenwich should write at once to Mr. I. Hamilton Benn urging him to support the Bill and to do all in his power towards facilities being granted for its passage into law this session. Goods and information from the Hon. Sec. (pro. tem.), Mrs. Leigh, 62, Manor Park, Lee.

HAMPSTEAD.

Shop—69, Heath Street. Office—151, Finchley Road. Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Hicks and Miss C. Collier. Work at the office started again on the Wednesday after Easter, and it was gratifying to find how many helpers turned up. Paper-sellers are still needed, as it is important to increase the circulation of the paper in this district. Friends must remember the Reception to be given to Miss Vida Goldstein at Hampstead Conservatoire on May 6. Many promises of help towards the tea, both in kind and money, have been received, but further promises will be welcomed as some hundreds are expected. The new open-air meeting secretary, Miss Spang, has started meetings on the Heath on Thursday evenings in addition to the usual Sunday morning meetings. Mrs. Brailford and Miss Westworth were the speakers last week.

ILFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Haslam, 65, Cranbrook Road. Work progresses steadily, canvassing especially. More helpers are needed for this (Wednesday, 3 p.m.), as there is a lot of ground to cover. Members are asked to make a special point of attending the monthly At Home on May 6, as there is much business to discuss. Miss Harvey held a successful meeting at Barking on Wednesday, and Miss Hopkins' address at Ilford on Saturday was much appreciated. Tickets for open-air orchestra at Albert Hall on June 17, 18. Please apply early.

ISLINGTON.

Office—257, Goswell Road, E.C. Hon. Sec.—Miss E. M. Casserley. At a committee meeting held at the office last Friday, it was decided to hold a meeting at Myddleton Hall, early in June. As this will be the local union's first indoor meeting, it is hoped that everyone will

make a special effort to achieve success. Bill-distributing, poster parades and other ways of advertising have been suggested, but it requires the help of every member to carry them through. Will all members who can help in any way kindly communicate with the secretary?

LEWISHAM.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Bourrier, 22, Mount Pleasant Road. Shop hours, 2 to 3 p.m. Thurs., 10.30–12.30 p.m. Shop and Office—107, High Street, Lewisham. Miss Naylor gave a splendid address on Hilly Fields and at Catford Clarion Club, where she opened a debate. The discussion which followed was animated, and literature sold well. Copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN accompanied by a letter, re introducing the paper into the Public Libraries' Reading Rooms, have been sent to the members of the Libraries' Committee. Thanks to Miss C. Campbell for typing the letters, and to the members who provided the copies of the paper. Gratefully acknowledged—Several Jumble Sale parcels. The treasurer will be glad to receive shop-report contributions which are overdue. For meetings see programme. The above premises will be vacated at the expiration of the agreement on June 24. After that the business of the union will be conducted on different lines, and the committee is considering the advisability of taking a room which will serve as an office and rallying ground for members and friends.

NORTH ISLINGTON.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Constance Bryer, 49, Tufnell Park, N. In spite of Mrs. Drummond's unavoidable absence on Friday night from Hornsey Road the meeting, taken by Miss Bonwick at a moment's notice, was a splendid one, the speaker holding her large audience keenly interested for over two hours. The chair was taken by Miss McDermott, who performed the same duty last day at the Clock-Tower meeting, when Miss Macnamara was the speaker. On both occasions there was a very good sale of papers. Committee members are asked to attend the committee meeting on May 1 (see programme). Will those who wish to hear Dr. Hile at Miss Humby's At Home on May 4 please write to the secretary for information at once?

N.W. LONDON.

Office—215, High Road, Kilburn, Tel. 1123, Hampstead. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Penn Gaskell. During the past week interest has centered round the resolution to be proposed at the next meeting of the Willenden Urban District Council urging the Government to give facilities for all the stages of the Conciliation Bill. Members have been busy canvassing the councillors with very encouraging results. Miss Nina Myers, so well known as one of the most indefatigable of workers for the cause, has kindly undertaken the post of meetings organiser. Members are reminded that the Wednesday alternate afternoon or evening At Homes are now in full swing, that the lending library is open, and that the loan of a piano and jumble sale articles are still asked for.

RADLETT.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. White, Grays. At a public meeting on April 19, Miss Shakespeare dealt with various anti-suffrage objections, and Mr. Joseph Clayton made a most entertaining speech, laying stress on the unbusinesslike methods prevalent in Parliament. Many elections in this district have promised to write to the members, Mr. Gaville, in favour of the Conciliation Bill, and women householders are also writing. Socialising for members on May 3 (see programme), by kind invitation of Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Foley.

RICHMOND AND KEW.

Hon. Sec.—Miss E. Casey, 25, West Park Road, Kew. Miss V. Bladé, 4, Pagoda Avenue, Richmond. There has been a most satisfactory increase weekly in the paper sales. Copies are now in the Richmond and Teddington Libraries.

STREATHAM.

Shop and Office: 8, Shrubbery Road, Streatham.
Hon. Sec.—Miss Leonora Tyson.

The Jumble Sale takes place next Monday, May 1, at 3 p.m., and members are reminded to send in their contributions (marked Jumble Sale) not later than Saturday, April 29. Stewards will be much needed, and volunteers should send in their names at once. The sale will not be advertised, and members are asked to make it known as widely as possible. Admission will be by ticket only (price 2d.), to be obtained at the Shop. Tickets for the whist drive on Saturday, May 13 (price 1s.), are also ready. Attention is directed to the notice in the advertisement column respecting the letting of the rooms above the shop, the letting of which would greatly reduce expenses. Many thanks to Mr. Hellyer for the much needed set of shelves and table which he has kindly fitted. The opening meeting on Streatham Common last Sunday was most successful, but members should attend to help in greater numbers on future Sundays. The first meeting in Brockwell Park takes place next Sunday, at 3 p.m.

SYDENHAM.

Shop and Office—96, Kirkdale. Organiser: Miss Miller.

Thanks to Miss McKee for arranging the delightful evening of Tableaux of Notable Women. The hall was well filled, and the audience charmed by the introductory speeches so kindly given by Miss Abadam, to whom grateful thanks. It is hoped that members will come forward and help with renewed zest after their holiday. Surely all the work is not to be left to a few willing workers. Members are reminded of the opening of the Empire Exhibition on May 12, and all those willing to help by distributing bills and selling papers on that day and following days are asked to send in their names at once to the organiser. Miss Miller would be glad if members would give more support to the Tuesday meetings at the shop. They are earnestly asked to bring friends, and make these meetings more widely known.

WALTHAMSTOW.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. David Milne, Claremont House, 46, Second Avenue, Walthamstow.

Members are requested to keep Saturday, May 13, free, as that is the date of the At Home to be held at Trinity Lecture Hall at 3.30 p.m., when Mrs. Brailford has kindly consented to speak. Admission price 3d., includes refreshments as well as a musical programme. Gifts of cakes, etc., will be most helpful. Open-air meeting every Saturday evening at Churchill Corner.

WIMBLEDON.

Shop—9, Victoria Crescent, Broadway, Wimbledon.
Tel. 1093, P.O. Wimbledon.
Hon. Organising Sec.—Mrs. Lamartine Yates, Dorset Hall, Merton, Surrey.

The shop was opened again on Tuesday after the Easter holidays. Members sympathise with the chief shop steward in her illness. Volunteers are called for this emergency duty. It would be a help if two or three members would signify their willingness to fill gaps which arise unavoidably. Members are asked to make a point of being at the meeting next Sunday on the Common.

Home Counties.

BRIGHTON, HOVE AND DISTRICT.

Office—8, North Street, Quadrant. Tel. 4823 Nat.
Organiser—Miss G. Allen.

The organiser would like to thank the London and other members who kindly helped by speaking and paper-selling during their Easter visit to Brighton. She would also like to remind local members that more paper-sellers are urgently needed. Will members wishing to take part in the Procession on June 17 send in their names as soon as possible, and will all who can attend the members' meeting to-night (Friday), as a great deal of work has to be got through before May 5, and all members can help?

CANTERBURY AND SOUTH KENT.

Organiser—Miss F. E. M. Macaulay, County Hotel, Canterbury.

A reference to the City Council's support of the Bill appears elsewhere. It has been decided to postpone the St. George's Hall meeting at Canterbury, which has so recently had a large public meeting, and to concentrate on the hitherto untouched parts of the South Kent district. Folkestone members and friends are asked to do their utmost to make the Town Hall meeting (see below) next Wednesday afternoon a great success. Miss Nicoll received valuable help with her paper-selling last week, Mrs. Tite, and Miss Swan of Battersea, two visitors, doing splendid work. The Tunbridge Wells campaign begins on May 8.

Wednesday, May 3.—Folkestone, Town Hall. Miss Decima Moore, Miss G. Brackenbury, 3 p.m.

KNEBWORTH.

Organiser—Lady Constance Lytton, Homewood. Since Christmas a series of very successful weekly meetings have been held in Knebworth, public meetings in the Village Hall and Mission Room alternately, varied by private meetings in drawing-rooms, kindly arranged by Mrs. Mulholland, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Blackburn, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Wallace, Mrs. Blackburn, and Miss Avery. On Tuesday, April 22, there was a well-attended meeting at Woolmer Green, with Mr. T. Johnson, Knebworth, in the chair. Lady Constance Lytton introduced the speakers—Miss Leslie Lawless and Mr. Duval—who were listened to with much interest. The resolution—"That this meeting favours the principle of giving votes to qualified women, and appeals to our Member of Parliament (Dr. Hillier) to support the Conciliation Bill; that it may become law without delay"—was carried unanimously. A copy was at once sent to Dr. Hillier by the chairman. At the close of the meeting, W.S.P.U. literature was distributed, and VOTES FOR WOMEN found a ready sale. Special thanks to Mrs. Beedham, Mrs. Wilson, and Miss Cross for their kind help.

Friday, April 28.—Hitchin, New Town Hall, Miss Vida Goldstein, Lord Robert Cecil, 8 p.m.

MAIDSTONE, NORTH KENT, AND ISLE OF THANET.

Organiser—Miss Laura Ainsworth, 21, Oxford Street, Margate.

Will members endeavour to attend the meeting on May 3 (see below), as arrangements must be made for the Foresters' Hall meeting on May 25? Volunteers are wanted to canvass roads for VOTES FOR WOMEN. Will they please communicate with the organiser? Many thanks to Miss Sharman, who so ably took Miss Ainsworth's place at the Adult School in Gillingham. The Chatham Jumble Sale will probably take place on May 6. Mrs. Bagshawe, Ordinance Street, Chatham, has kindly offered to receive all goods. Offers of drawing-room and garden meetings are urgently needed during the summer. Financial help to extend the work will be gladly received by the organiser at above address. Tuesday, May 2.—Chatham, Geisha Café, High Street. Members' meeting, 7.30 p.m. Wednesday, May 3.—Margate, Fairfield, Cliftonville Avenue. Members' meeting, 7.30 p.m. Friday, May 5.—Gravesend, Clock Tower, 7.30 p.m.

OXFORD.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. E. F. Richards, 299, Woodstock Road. The Assembly Room was well filled for the meeting last Friday. Mr. Chapman and Dr. Carpenter spoke, and their speeches were much appreciated by the audience. The resolution was carried, with only two dissentients. Thanks to those members who helped to make the meeting a success, particularly those who poster-paraded and acted as stewards. The attention of members is called to the Procession on June 17. Arrangements must be made as early as possible. Will those who wish to join the Oxford contingent kindly send their names to Miss Graham, 27, Northam Road. Members and friends are urged to write to their M.P.'s asking them to support the Conciliation Bill.

PORTSMOUTH AND SOUTHAMPTON.

Organiser: Miss G. A. L. Marsh, 4, Pelham Road, Portsmouth, and 61, Oxford Street, Southampton.

The organiser hopes that during her absence at Cheltenham members are doing everything in their power to get men and women to write to the local M.P.'s, asking them to vote for the Bill on May 5, and to support the Conciliation Committee in its demand for facilities. A good contingent must represent this district in the great procession on June 17. Albert Hall Tickets; prices 2s. 6d. and 6d., all reserved and numbered, may be had from Miss Marsh. These should be applied for early. Contributions to the local campaign fund are needed.

Monday, May 1.—Southampton, Clock Tower, 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 2.—Southampton, Kingsland Square, 8.30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3.—Portsmouth, Town Hall Square, 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 4.—Portsmouth, near St. Mary's Church, 8 p.m.

RAYLEIGH.

Shop and Office—High Street.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Warren, B.A., The White Cottage.

Will every local member write to the M.P., Mr. Kirkwood, and ask him to reconsider his position concerning Women Suffrage? As a large number of his constituents are in favour of the Conciliation Bill it is hoped he will not vote against this measure. VOTES FOR WOMEN and other literature etc., can always be obtained from the Library. All those needing tickets for the Albert Hall meeting June 17, should apply for them at once as they are selling rapidly.

Tuesday, May 2.—The White Cottage. Chair: Miss Currock. Speakers: Mr. and Mrs. Warren, 8 p.m.

READING AND NEWBURY.

Shop and Office: 34, Market Place.
Organiser—Miss Stella Fife.

A letter, signed by representative men and women of Reading, is being sent to Sir Rufus Isaacs, reminding him of his support to the Conciliation Bill, and asking him to do all he can to gain further facilities for the Bill now before Parliament. The speeches at the Newbury At Home on Wednesday next will be preceded by a short programme of music for pianoforte and violoncello, given by Miss Katharine Eggar and Miss Stella Fife. The Reading and district open-air campaign commences to-day (Friday—see below), at Wallingford, when Miss Daukes will speak at meetings in the Market Place during the afternoon and evening. Will members give all possible help? Please remember that no time must be lost in making arrangements to be in the great Procession to the Albert Hall on June 17. Reading must be strongly represented.

Friday, April 28.—Wallingford Market Place, Miss Daukes, 3 and 6 p.m.

Monday, May 1.—Sonning by the Bridge, Miss Morton. Chair: Miss Stella Fife, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3.—Newbury, Guildhall Restaurant, At Home, Dr. Florence Armitage. Chair: Miss Daukes, 3 p.m.

Saturday, May 6.—Goring on Thames, High Street, Miss Gwen Richards, 7 p.m.

REDHILL.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Richmond, Fongates House.

There was a good sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN last Saturday. Warm thanks to Miss Quinton for her indefatigable efforts in this direction. Members returning from holiday please rally. Sellers wanted for street meetings. Also names of those joining in the Procession of June 17 and requiring Albert Hall tickets.

Saturday, April 29.—Corner of Ladbroke Road, Mr. Victor Duval, 8 p.m.

The Midlands.

BIRMINGHAM AND DISTRICT.

Office—97, John Bright Street. Tel. 1443 Midland.
Organisers—Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Gladys Hazel.

In spite of Easter holidays, members attended with great devotion at the Independent Labour Party's Conference to sell papers. Now that meetings are being held in different districts instead of in the centre of the town each week, it is hoped that members in every district will make a special effort to attend the meetings, and give all the help they can. Canvassers and paper-sellers for the special open-air meetings are urgently needed. Arrangements are also being made for the summer campaign. Will those members who can help volunteer, and state which evenings they will be free? Much valuable work can be done not only at At Homes and Garden Parties, but at less formal meetings. A number of members have already arranged Suffrage teas. Further offers will be gladly welcomed.

Tuesday, May 2.—Tindal Street Schools, S. Grew, Esq., Miss Dorothy Evans, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3.—Suffrage Tea, Mrs. Lever, Mrs. Hill, and Mrs. Kerwood, 3 p.m.; Suffrage Tea, Mrs. Whiten, and Miss Dorothy Evans, 4 p.m.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Office—14, Bowling Green Street, Leicester.
Tel. 1715 Leicester.

Organiser—Miss Dorothy Pethick.

Will those members who have not paid their March shop-rent kindly do so now? Members wishing to attend the Albert Hall on June 17 must secure their seats early; all the 1s. tickets are sold. Miss Adela Pankhurst will speak at next Wednesday's meeting; will members do their best to bring friends? The first banner-sewing meeting will be held at 130, Regent Road to-day (Friday), from 3 till 6 p.m. All wishing to attend these gatherings should send in their names at once to the organiser; it is hoped that every member will help to collect small subscriptions from sympathisers and friends. Contributions should be sent to Mrs. Pemberton Peake. Members are particularly urged to attend the members' meeting next Monday (May 1). A party is being arranged to go from Leicester to the Nottingham Pageant. Those wishing to join (tickets, 1s.) should send in their names at once.

Friday, April 28.—130, Regent Road, banner sewing meeting, 3 to 6 p.m.

Monday, May 1.—Shop, members' meeting, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 3.—Temperance Hall, Room No. 3 and 4, Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

NOTTINGHAM.

Office—6, Carlton Street. Tel. 5311.

Hon. Secs.—Miss G. M. Burgis, B.A., Miss Wallis.

The great future event is the Pageant, May 4 (see below). Tickets, 5s. and 2s. 6d., reserved, 1s., unreserved. Will all secure seats early, as there is a great demand. Volunteers for distributing handbills are much needed. Will members please call at 6, Carlton Street and offer help, and will all combine to advertise the performances, which will include items from Miss Decima Moore. Souvenir programmes, with photographs of performers are now ready, price 6d. Boxes have been secured for the Nottingham contingent at the Albert Hall, London, on June 17. Those who wish for seats, please write to the secretaries at once. Gratefully acknowledged: Census Party, 350, Mansfield Road, 7s. 6d.

Thursday, May 4.—Mechanics' Institute, Large Hall, Pageant of Great Women, 2.30 and 8 p.m.

West of England.

BRISTOL.

Office—57, Queen's Road, Clifton. Tel. 1355.
Organiser—Miss Annie Kenney.

The first At Home after the Easter holidays was held at the Victoria Rooms on Monday April 24, when the

THE CORSET QUESTION OF TO-DAY.

Practically speaking, every reader of this paper is interested in the question of Corsets, and that interest must in the natural order of things at some time or other find its practical outlet in the act of purchasing. Now, it is one thing to buy a Corset and quite another thing to be perfectly satisfied with it after you have bought it, and that is just where we want to be of service to you. We are not content to merely sell you a Corset; we take a personal interest in the matter and are not satisfied unless we are quite certain that the model supplied is in every way suited to the particular requirements of your figure. We have at our Show and Fitting Rooms a staff of expert assistants who make it their business to send every customer away satisfied with her purchase. You can be personally fitted (and we advise this wherever possible) without any extra charge, but should this not be convenient, you can rely upon the very best possible attention at the hands of our postal department. A postcard to us will bring you a daintily illustrated booklet, together with self-measurement form, which when filled in is an adequate guide to us in the selection of a suitable model.



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622—Smart Muslin Slip, trimmed with bold openwork embroidered mesh insertion. In all sizes. Price 3/6

2933—Printed Paisley Ninon Slip, with oxidised lace collar and cuffs. The shoulders and down the sleeve have a broad band of black mery. Studded oxidised buttons.
Price 15/9

262—Useful Morning Shirt in white matt cloth. American yoke, soft golf collar. Made in 13, 13½, 14, 14½, and 15 inch collars.
3/6

TOTTENHAM HOUSE,
TOTTENHAM COURT RD.,
London, W.

FULL ILLUSTRATED BOOK OF THE NEW FASHIONS, IN ALL DEPARTMENTS, SENT POST FREE.

Rev. Geoffrey Ramsey made a most beautiful speech on the Woman's Movement. Will all West of England members who intend taking part in the London demonstration on Saturday, June 17, and who want Albert Hall tickets please let the organiser know at once, as tickets are going rapidly. All Jumble Sale goods should be sent to Mrs. Malcolm Evans, 7, Alexandra, Clifton. The oldest West of England suffragette is a lady aged 85, who joined last week at a drawing-room meeting at Ilfracombe. She is able to read without glasses and is quite interested in everything that is going on. She felt she ought to be a member of the Union.

FALMOUTH.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Ross.
c/o Mrs. F. Corbett, The Bungalow.

Local sympathisers were delighted at the opportunity given them to hear Mrs. Pettiback Lawrence and Miss Vida Goldstein at Mall's Hall, on Friday, April 21, when they very kindly consented to motor over from the Lizard to speak. The meeting, which was got up at three days' notice, was very fairly attended, and both speakers were listened to with intense interest. The resolution that "this meeting accords its hearty support to the Bill for woman's enfranchisement now before Parliament, and calls upon the Government to give full facilities for passing the measure into law this session," was passed without a dissentient. The platform was charmingly decorated by the hon. secretary, Miss Williams, of Devon, Miss Powell, of Penzance, and other friends.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Office—6, Oval Road, Cheltenham. Tel. 1871.
Organiser—Miss S. Ada Flatman.

Miss Flatman hopes that all members will write to the newly elected representative, urging him to support the Women's Bill when it comes up for its second reading on May 5, and through all its subsequent stages. The At Home arranged for May 2, is postponed, owing to election. The next will take place on May 16, when Miss Beatrice Harraden will pay her long-looked-for visit, and will give a reading of her play "Lady Geraldine's Speech."

ILFRACOMBE AND BARNSTAPLE.

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer—Mrs. du Sautoy Newby
St. Mary's, Broad Park Avenue, Ilfracombe.
Hon. Lit. Secretary—Miss Ball, Nursing Home,
Larkstone, Ilfracombe.

Many thanks to Miss Ball, of 2, Larkstone Villas Ilfracombe, for kindly lending her drawing-room for a meeting last Friday. Miss Kenney made a splendid speech to a crowded room, quite carrying her audience with her. Five members were made, several papers sold, and 13s. 10d. collected. Will every member and sympathiser write to their Member of Parliament, asking him to support the Conciliation Bill. This should be done at once. Gratefully acknowledged: Mrs. Dorell, Is.

WEST WILTS.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Mrs. Dorell-Willcox, 50, Bradley Road, Trowbridge.

Members' thoughts must be turned from now onwards to the safe passage of the Conciliation Bill through its various stages this session. Sympathisers of both sexes will do well to write to their members of Parliament asking them to support the Bill. Let every member and every sympathiser leave no stone unturned till the Bill is safely landed. Mrs. Williams is canvassing Conservatives with a view to sending a memorial to Mr. Balfour. The secretary will be pleased to draft any number of these for either Liberal or Conservative workers to fill during the ensuing days.

Wales.

NEWPORT.

Office—46, Clarence Place, Newport.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Humphrey Mackworth.

Tickets (2s. 6d. and 1s.) for the Albert Hall demonstration on June 17 may now be had at the shop. Will all South Wales members who intend going to London for this meeting write to the Secretary at once, as arrangements are being made with the Railway Company to run an excursion from this district? The organiser will be glad if members will volunteer for the deputation, should one be necessary. They should let her know immediately. A weekly open-air meeting will be held in Bridge Street on Wednesdays, at 7.30 p.m. Members are asked to help regularly, by selling papers, &c.

Eastern Counties.

GLAUCON-ON-SEA.

Shop—47, Rosemary Road.
Hon. Sec.—Miss Lilley, Holland House.

Last Thursday a small deputation of ladies, led by Mrs. Hicks, met Mr. Newton, M.P., at The Grand Hotel, Glaucon-on-Sea, to solicit his interest on behalf of the Conciliation Bill. Mr. Newton has promised to vote for the Second Reading, and to assist its further progress through Parliament. The shop, which was only opened last week, is already attracting a great deal of interest, and it is confidently felt will be a great success. All the help members can give in any way will be gratefully accepted.

IPSWICH AND DISTRICT.

Shop—4a, Princess Street, Ipswich.
Organiser—Miss Grace Roe, 19, Silent Street, Ipswich.
Shop Sec.—Miss King.

The organiser urges members and friends who have not already written to the M.P. for their constituency asking him to vote for the Bill on May 5 to do so at once. Canvassers for the Matinee at the Lyceum Theatre, Ipswich, on Wednesday, May 10, should take this opportunity for urging friends to help in this matter. Many members are doing splendid work canvassing, but still more helpers are needed. Stalls, 4s. and 2s. 6d.; Circle, 3s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.; Parterre, 1s. 6d.; Amphitheatre, 1s.; Pit, 1s.; and Gallery, 6d., can be obtained from Miss Elvey at the shop. Will country members please note that Miss King will welcome out flowers for the shop window? An account of Mrs. Murrell's At Home will be given later. Saturday, April 29.—Felixatowe, Spa Pavilion, Miss Vida Goldstein, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield. Chair: The Rev. Dr. Cobb. Hostesses: Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., Mrs. Burch, Miss Babington, Mrs. Cowes, the Lady Mary Cayley, 3 p.m.

North-Eastern Counties.

BARNSELY.

Hon. Sec. (pro tem.)—Mrs. Wardell, 13, Princess Street.
Thanks to Miss Williams for the splendid assistance she has rendered in Barnsley during her holiday. She

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Carriage paid one way on everything.

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has found everywhere the greatest sympathy and enthusiasm for the women's cause. Mrs. Wardell, of Scarborough, is now taking up her work with the help of local ladies and gentlemen until Sunday night, when Mrs. Pankhurst will address a meeting in the Empire at 8.15. A meeting of supporters is to be called on Wednesday, May 10, time and place to be given later. Sunday, April 30.—Empire Palace, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8.15 p.m.

BRADFORD AND DISTRICT.

Office—53, Manningham Lane. Phone 5035.
Organiser—Miss Mary Phillips.

Tri-colours were hung from the upper windows by Miss Beldon, and attracted great attention amongst the crowds of people passing through Manningham Lane on Bank Holiday. The shop has been re-opened, and plans for an energetic campaign will be announced shortly. The organiser is leaving the centre, local workers having developed such excellent capacities for carrying on the work that her help is no longer necessary.

DONCASTER.

Sec. (pro tem.)—Miss Jerriss, 60, Albany Road, Balby.

All arrangements are now complete for Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting in the Corn Exchange, Doncaster. A meeting of supporters is to be called on May 11, time and place to be given later. Saturday, April 29.—Corn Exchange, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT.

Office—77, Blackett Street.
Organiser—Miss A. Williams.

Work was resumed on Wednesday April 19; those who attended the evening meeting at 77, Blackett Street, had the great pleasure of meeting Miss Edith New, and of listening to her interesting address. A very pleasant whilst drive arranged by South Shields members, was held in the lower Victoria Hall on Thursday. The room was prettily decorated in the colours and many willing helpers assisted with the refresh-

ments. Mrs. Loyden gave away the prizes. Will members make next Wednesday's At Homes widely known and do their best to attend, either in the afternoon or evening. Cakes for the At Home teas will be welcomed by the organiser. They should be sent to the shop on Wednesday morning. The regular monthly meetings are as follows:—Sunderland, Westcott House, third Thursday, 7.30 p.m. South Shields, Victoria Hall, first Friday, 7.30 p.m. Jarrow, Adult School, second Tuesday, 7.30 p.m. Gateshead, Coatsworth Hall, second Thursday, 7.30 p.m. Names of those who intend going to London for June 17, should be sent in as soon as possible.

Friday, April 28.—77, Blackett Street, Meeting for Teachers, Miss Annie Williams, 7.30 p.m. Wednesday, May 3.—77, Blackett Street, At Home, Miss Nora Ball, 3 and 7.30 p.m. Friday, May 5.—South Shields, Victoria Hall, Monthly Meeting, Miss A. Thompson, Miss C. Wilcox, Miss A. Williams, 7.30 p.m.

ROTHERHAM.

Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Slack, 54, High Street.

With the able assistance of her committee Mrs. Slack has got a good choir to sing the "Woman's March" on May 2, at Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting, which is to be held in the Town Hall Assembly Rooms, Rotherham, at 8 p.m.

Tuesday, May 2.—Town Hall, Assembly Rooms, Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Adela Pankhurst. Chair: Rev. T. T. James, 8 p.m.

SCARBOROUGH.

Shop: 39, Huntriss Row.

Hon. Sec.—Miss Saffield, 13, New Queen Street.
Hon. Treas.—Dr. Marion Mackenzie, 7, The Valley.

Miss Adela Pankhurst's meetings in Scarborough during Easter week have been most successful. She hopes soon to be able to extend her field of energy into the surrounding country. Will anyone interested in the towns or villages around communicate with Dr. Mackenzie, who will try and arrange meetings for

ALAN'S TEA ROOMS, 263, OXFORD STREET

(Three Doors from Jay's).

LUNCHEON - - - 1s., 1s. 6d.
TEA - - - 12 till 2.30. - - - 4d., 6d., 1s.

A Large Room may be Engaged for Meetings, &c. No Charge to Members of the W.S.P.U.

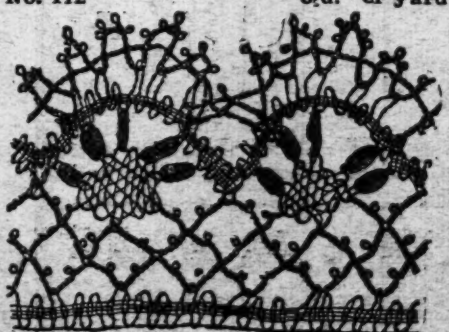
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Nice assortment Collars, Ties, Fronts, Cuffs, Sets, Yokes, Berberes, &c., 3/-, 4/-, 5/-, 6/-, 7/-, 8/-, 9/-, 10/-, 11/-, 12/-, 13/-, 14/-, 15/-, 16/-, 17/-, 18/-, 19/-, 20/-, 21/-, 22/-, 23/-, 24/-, 25/-, 26/-, 27/-, 28/-, 29/-, 30/-, 31/-, 32/-, 33/-, 34/-, 35/-, 36/-, 37/-, 38/-, 39/-, 40/-, 41/-, 42/-, 43/-, 44/-, 45/-, 46/-, 47/-, 48/-, 49/-, 50/-, 51/-, 52/-, 53/-, 54/-, 55/-, 56/-, 57/-, 58/-, 59/-, 60/-, 61/-, 62/-, 63/-, 64/-, 65/-, 66/-, 67/-, 68/-, 69/-, 70/-, 71/-, 72/-, 73/-, 74/-, 75/-, 76/-, 77/-, 78/-, 79/-, 80/-, 81/-, 82/-, 83/-, 84/-, 85/-, 86/-, 87/-, 88/-, 89/-, 90/-, 91/-, 92/-, 93/-, 94/-, 95/-, 96/-, 97/-, 98/-, 99/-, 100/-, 101/-, 102/-, 103/-, 104/-, 105/-, 106/-, 107/-, 108/-, 109/-, 110/-, 111/-, 112/-, 113/-, 114/-, 115/-, 116/-, 117/-, 118/-, 119/-, 120/-, 121/-, 122/-, 123/-, 124/-, 125/-, 126/-, 127/-, 128/-, 129/-, 130/-, 131/-, 132/-, 133/-, 134/-, 135/-, 136/-, 137/-, 138/-, 139/-, 140/-, 141/-, 142/-, 143/-, 144/-, 145/-, 146/-, 147/-, 148/-, 149/-, 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them, either open-air or indoor, and who will be glad if they can arrange preliminary advertising by chalking pavements and putting out posters? Miss Simpson's lecture, which will give the teachers' point of view, will be exceedingly interesting. Will the members make it widely known?
Wednesday, May 3.—39, Huntriss Row, Miss Simpson, 8 p.m.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT.

Organiser—Miss Adela Pankhurst.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Archibald.
Shop 25-26, Chapel Walk, Sheffield.
Tel.: Broomhill 449.
All the Sheffield societies have been asked to receive a speaker, in order that they may be induced to follow the Sheffield City Council's good example, and pass a resolution supporting the Conciliation Bill. Miss Batho is going to design and make a banner for the procession on June 17, and she will be glad of small contributions to the cost. A very large choir will sing the "Woman's March" in the Albert Hall, Sheffield, on May 1, under the direction of Mr. George Hiltnerberger.
Monday, May 1.—Sheffield, Albert Hall, Mrs. Pankhurst. Chair: Rev. J. F. Matthews, 8 p.m.

YORK.

Office—2, New Street. Organiser—Miss Kay-Jones.
Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Coultate, 25, Melbourne Street.
Members who wish to join the Procession on June 17 should kindly send in their names to the organiser. Arrangements might be made with the N.E.R. for cheaper tickets. Many thanks to those who have subscribed to the Railway Poster; as the necessary amount is not quite made up, further subscriptions will be welcomed. Thanks, also, to the members for the enthusiastic work they have done for Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting.
Friday, April 28.—Festival Concert Rooms, Mrs. Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

North-Western Counties.

LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT.

Office—11, Renshaw Street. Tel. 3761 Royal.
Organiser—Miss Davies.
Will members wishing for seats for the Albert Hall Demonstration on June 17 communicate with the organiser. Box seats, 2s. 2d.; balcony, 1s. Special train arrangements will be made. Open air meetings are starting in Birkenhead and Wallasey. Will all members willing to help with a small subscription towards the rent and expenses of the office each quarter send their names to Miss Davies.
Friday, May 5.—11, Renshaw Street, the Rev. H. D. Roberts, 8 p.m.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT.

Central Office—17, St. Ann's Square, Manchester. Tel.: 1910 Central. Organiser—Miss Stephenson.
An extensive open-air campaign has been arranged in the various Lancashire towns, and members and sympathisers in Wigan, Darwen, Accrington, Leigh, Burnley, Ashton, etc., are asked to communicate with the organiser. In addition to these, meetings will be held in the Manchester suburbs, and members are wanted to arrange and work these up in their own districts. More paper-sellers are still needed for the Manchester pitches. Miss Hilda Crutchley has come forward to take the Gaiety Theatre pitch every Monday evening, and the Piccadilly pitch on Saturday afternoons. Who will volunteer for another night during the week? Mr. Henry Austin has very kindly offered his studio for an entertainment he has offered to arrange, early in May. Tickets, price 1s. 6d. each—proceeds to go to the Campaign Fund. Names of those joining in the procession in London on June 17 should be sent in as early as possible, in order that arrangements may be made with the Railway Company.

Tickets for the Manchester boxes, 2s. 2d. each, may be obtained from the office.

Friday, April 28.—17, St. Ann's Square, Mrs. Drummond, Miss Violet Hughes, 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 2.—17, St. Ann's Square, At Home, 8 to 9 p.m.
Friday, May 5.—17, St. Ann's Square, At Home, Miss Jessie Stephenson, Miss Violet Hughes, 7.30 p.m.
PRESTON, ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA AND DISTRICT.
Organisers—Mrs. Rigby, 41, Glover's Court, Preston. Miss Johnson, the Hyde, Lytham.
Friday, April 28.—Assembly Rooms, Public Hall Demonstration, Miss Hornbman, M.A., Lady Stout, Mr. Henry Austin, 8 p.m.

SOUTHPORT.

Office—1, Post Office Avenue, Lord Street.
Hon. Sec.—Ethel Ashby.
There was a good audience on Monday last when Mr. Clarke spoke on the suffrage from the man's point of view, showing the refining influence of women in all grades of life. Miss Rose gave a vigorous address, briefly outlining the whole of the militant movement. Will all members try to be present on Thursday evening, as a library committee must be formed, and their presence is important?
Saturday, April 29.—Shore, Miss Rose, 3.30 p.m.

WALLASEY.

Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Mahood, Barrowfield Bridge, Lanes; Mrs. F. Heathcote, 21, Martins Lane, Liscard.
Will any members who intend to take part in the Great Demonstration on June 17 please write to Miss Hor. so seats must be booked at once. Paper sales are still increasing. Many thanks to Mrs. Caldwell who has succeeded in getting a poster exhibited regularly in New Brighton. Harry up, Wallasey and Seacombe! Mrs. Heathcote also wishes to thank those members who have so kindly promised to send VOTES FOR WOMEN to members of the Council weekly.

Scotland.

DUNDEE AND EAST FIFE.

Office—41, Rathgore. Organiser—Miss Fraser-Smith, M.A. Hon. Sec.—Miss McFarlane.
Work has now been resumed after the Easter holidays. Many thanks to those who sold VOTES FOR WOMEN and attended to the market stall in the absence of the organiser and hon. sec. The Jumble Sale will be held on Saturday, May 6. Goods will be gratefully received. An enthusiastic supporter of the W.S.P.U., Mr. James Waddell, left for Canada last week. Dundee members and friends wish him all success and good fortune and remember with gratitude the work he did here to help forward the movement. At the meeting on April 11, Mrs. Renny was the speaker and the audience thoroughly enjoyed her address.
Saturday, April 29.—Flower Market, Stall, 2 and 10 p.m.

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND.

Office—8, Melville Place, Queensferry Street.
Organiser—Miss Lucy Burns, B.A., Tel.: 6183 Central.
A large open-air campaign is being carried on to arouse public interest in the second reading of the Conciliation Bill. Miss Burns is working the Border towns. Miss Hilda Crutchley has come forward to take the Gaiety Theatre pitch every Monday evening, and the Piccadilly pitch on Saturday afternoons. Four meetings will be held nightly until May 4. Will all those able to help with paper-selling and distribution of leaflets please call at the office or send in their names and state which evening they can give. At the weekly At Homes on Thursday Mrs. Chapin gave a suggestive speech on "The Evolution of Women in Art." Both At Homes were largely attended in spite of its being holiday time. At a meeting in Dunfer-



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"The FAMILY DOCTOR" and "The WELL-DOER" say of the ordinary cheap tea of the shops:—

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"It is significant to note that doctors are more and more forbidding it (ordinary tea) to patients. But many who never get into the doctors' books are undermining their nerve force by tea drinking."

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There is serious danger!

Unquestionably the rank, inferior, grades now so generally sold are proving absolutely fatal to the nerves and digestions of the people of this country, who are fast becoming accustomed to the use of tea

lower in quality, and laden with tannin and other impurities such as would have been scorned thirty years ago. Our illustration shows a collection of insects sifted out from a chest of cheap tea.



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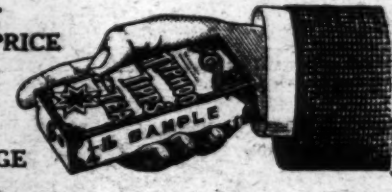
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"Votes for Women" REGULARLY FROM YOUR NEWSAGENT.

line on April 24, the Rev. S. Millar in the chair, Mrs. Kington Parkes and Miss Burns were the speakers. The audience were most sympathetic.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND.

Shop and Office 502, Sauchiehall Street.
Tel. 618, Charing Cross. Organiser, Miss Wylie.
Will members who are able to give time for open-air meetings please send in their names to the organiser as she is anxious to hold as many meetings as possible in Glasgow and neighbourhood during May. Stewards, paper-sellers, and chairmen are needed. Miss Wylie feels that it will better suit the convenience of members during the summer months to have the At Homes either in the evening or earlier in the week. The seats in the boxes for the Albert Hall Demonstration are all sold. Members requiring tickets for other parts of the Hall should make immediate application. Gratefully acknowledged: The Misses Abel £5, the Misses Henderson £1, Misses Johnstone 5s., Miss Mitchell 5s., Miss Anderson 5s., Miss Dunn 5s., Miss Campbell 5s., per Mrs. Turner 10s. 3d., per Miss Burnett: Mrs. Wright £1, Miss Maria Smith £1, Miss A. M. Hamilton 10s., Miss Burnett, jam sold, £1, Miss Cook 5s.
Friday, April 28.—Salicots, Lesser Town Hall, Miss Wylie. Chair: Miss Underwood, 8 p.m.
Saturday, April 29.—Charing Cross Hall, At Home, Mrs. Kington Parkes, 5 p.m.

SPEAKERS' CLASS.

Hon. Elouction Mistress—Miss Rosa Loo, 43, Ashworth Mansions, Elgin Avenue, W.
Hon. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.
A great many outdoor meetings must be held between now and June 17, in order to advertise the great Procession and Demonstration. It is therefore hoped that members will give all the time they can spare to the Speakers' Class outdoor campaign, and that many more will join the classes. These recommence to-night, Friday, April 28, when a lively debate on "Militant Methods" is expected. Will all the members of the Speakers' Class turn up in force and be prepared to argue on either side? Miss Leo's Private Classes restart to-morrow (Saturday), and Tuesday, May 2.

RULES.

1. Members of the Union only are eligible.
 2. The Class is held at 4, Clements Inn, Room 72, every Friday, at 7.45 p.m. sharp.
 3. Entrance fee 3d. weekly proceeds to be used for the purchase of educational literature.
 4. The Library books are only to be kept one week, and must be returned or sent by post before the next class.
 5. Members are limited to ten classes, and it must be clearly understood that no one shall be admitted to these classes except intending speakers.
- The Private Classes are held at 41, Norfolk Square (Praed Street Station), by kind permission of Mrs. Ayton, on Tuesdays, at 7.45, on Saturdays at 4 p.m.

CLERKS' W.S.P.U.

Hon. Secs.: Miss Phyllis Ayton, 63, Edith Road, West Kensington. Miss Cynthia Maguire, 15, Carlton Vale, Maida Vale, N.W.
Members of the Clerks' W.S.P.U. have undertaken to be entirely responsible for the organisation of the Clerks' Stenographer and Civil Servants' contingent in the Procession on Saturday June 17. This will entail a great deal of work in advertising, canvassing and holding meetings for business women, and offers of help are urgently needed. The secretaries would like the name of anyone who can either give help, lend drawing rooms or offices for meetings, or who is willing to walk in this contingent. The next members' meeting will be held on Monday, May 1, in Room 68, 4, Clements Inn, at 6.30 p.m.

THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 1214.
President: Mrs. Forbes Robertson.
Organising Secretary: Miss Joan Dagdale.
An interesting meeting will be held to-day, Friday, at the New Reform Club, 10, Adelphi Terrace, W.C., at 3 p.m., when Mr. Arthur Price will lecture on "French Women of the Seventeenth Century, and the Influence of Corneille's Plays on the Women of the Fronde." Open to members and their friends, who are cordially invited. Tea, after the meeting, in the League Offices (opposite New Reform Club). The next At Home will be held in the Grand Hall, Criterion Restaurant, on Friday, May 5, at 3 p.m. The Hon. Mrs. Henley, Miss Margaret Farquharson, M.A., Joseph Clayton, Esq., and Sir Francis Vane, Bart., will be the speakers. Miss Ella Wheeler Wilcox will be the guest of honour. "The Awakening" will be sung by Miss Muriel Terry.

CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

President—The Bishop of Lincoln.
Offices—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent's Park, N.W.
The following meetings are arranged:—May 2, The College, Worcester, 3 p.m.; Chairman, Rev. Canon Wilson; Speaker, Rev. C. Hinchcliff. May 4, Heene Rooms, Worthing; Chairman, Rev. J. P. Fallows; Speaker, Rev. C. Hinchcliff. May 6, Drawing Room Meeting, Miss C. Dainton Lane, 3 p.m.
Friday, May 5, will be observed as a Day of Intercession, when the Royal Chapel of the Savoy will be open all day for private prayer, and addresses will be given, at 11 and 3, by Rev. C. Hinchcliff, and at 6.30 by the Chaplain, Rev. Hugh B. Chapman. Members wishing to walk with the League in the Procession on June 17 are requested to send in their names as soon as possible to the Organiser.

CONSERVATIVE & UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

48, Dover Street, W.
The Kensington Branch held a most successful meeting at 35, Bessett Road, North Kensington, by kind permission of Mrs. Head, on April 21. The chief speaker, Dr. Yane Kin, Superintendent of the Imperial Teikang Women's Medical School and Hospital, Tientsin, gave an interesting address on the position of women in China. The other speakers were Mr. A. Stone Hurst, a recent convert from the Anti-Suffragists, who made his first speech on our side, and Miss Keeling, P.L.G. Lady Crags was in the chair, and the majority of those present were strangers, who were keenly interested in the speeches.

FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

Hon. Org. Sec.—Rev. Edward Clark, 1, Burns Road, Harlesden, London, N.W. Hon. Cor. Sec.—Miss Hatty Baker, 36, Hartington Villas, Hove.
All are invited to the Suffrage Service, at Bloomsbury Central Church, Shaftesbury Avenue, E.C.4, on Thursday, May 4, at 8 p.m. Preacher: Rev. T. Phillips, B.A. Distributors of handbills still needed to make 4, known in Free Churches. Kindly apply to W. B. Rogers, Esq., 4, Chomeley Park, Highgate, or to A. Foster, Esq., 65, Crompton Road, South Croydon. The Church League invite members to their Day of Intercession, May 5, and with them we are taking part in a meeting (W.S.P.U.) at Redhill, another (London Society) at Enfield, May 12; and a third at Large Public Hall, Croydon, May 4, with other local societies, at 8 p.m.

THE NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Organiser—Miss Helen Ogston.
Office—3, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (opposite Tube Station).
Miss Frye and Miss Alexandra Wright are working up the Rye meeting by means of a systematic house to house canvass, and report great success. Lady Brassey has promised to take the chair and Miss Helen Ogston.

Colonel Savile, and the Rev. Lowelyn Smith will speak. It is hoped to form branches in Ewe and Hythe and funds are needed. Members, please do not let this important work stop for lack of funds. Guarantees amounting to £8 10s. are required for the rent of the enlarged office. Cordial thanks to Miss Sheppard and Miss Dixon for their help. The next London meeting will be at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, Willoughby Road, Hampstead, on Wednesday, May 3, at 4 p.m. Hostesses: Miss Alice Bell and Miss Evans. Speakers: Mrs. Cecil Chapman, Mrs. Cope, Mrs. Hicks, Miss Helen Ogston, and Joseph Clayton, Esq. Cards of invitation can be obtained from the secretary. Office At Home, Tuesday, May 2: The Rev. Greenfield will speak on "Religion and Politics," and Mrs. Lonsignol on the "Victorian Woman." Hostess, Mrs. Forsyth. Members are urged to come and bring their friends.

THE CATHOLIC WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY.

All Catholic men and women are asked to join this society, which has just been started, and as members will walk under their own banner in the Procession on June 17, there must be a good rally. The minimum annual subscription is 1s. Funds are urgently needed as the printing expenses at present have been rather heavy. Communications may be addressed to Miss Monica Whately, Hon. Treasurer, 75, Harcourt Terrace, The Bottons, S.W.

IRISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE SOCIETY, BELFAST.

Mrs. Mary Fielden, of Leeds, is spending a week in the north of Ireland. On Monday she took the affirmative in a debate on the "Enfranchisement of Women," and, needless to say, her male opponent was badly beaten, in spite of the fact that he brought four other men to support him. On Tuesday she visited Derry, and on Wednesday Mr. McBride, her visited kindly gave an At Home. To-day (Friday) she will speak in Lisburn, and to-morrow (Saturday) in Ormeau Park. Subscriptions of cakes, etc., for the Cake Fair on May 8 are earnestly solicited, and may be sent to 22, Wellington Place on that day.

MUNSTER WOMEN'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

At the usual fortnightly meeting held on Tuesday April 11, an address on "The Labour Movement and the Suffrage Movement" was given by Mr. B. Mooney. Taking Professor Karl Pearson's axiom, "There has never been a Labour movement without a Woman's movement," as his text, the lecturer drew the analogy between the two, showing how closely allied they are and how indispensable one to the other. Miss McSwiney also addressed the meeting, giving a brief but clear outline of the old Brehon Law of Ireland—a law which recognised women in a peculiar degree. The chair was taken by Mrs. Russell, who announced that an independent committee had been formed to nominate candidates for the Board of Poor Law Guardians, there being at present no ladies acting in that capacity in Cork. Since the last meeting 11 new subscribers to VOTES FOR WOMEN have been gained, none of whom are members of the Society.

MEN'S POLITICAL UNION

For Women's Enfranchisement.

Offices: 13, Buckingham Street, Strand, W.C.
Telephone: City 6573.

Founder and Hon. Organising Sec.—Victor D. Duval.

Our new Speakers' Class for members only will commence on Monday, May 1, at 7.45 p.m., and will continue to be held every Monday after, excepting May 15, when a public welcome to Mr. Hugh A. Franklin will be given at the Caxton Hall. There are a few seats still available for this meeting, and those desirous of being present should write at once for tickets (1s. each). A public meeting, is being arranged in Camberwell under the auspices of this Union; those willing to help should communicate with Mr. R. Bowden-Smith, 3, Ryedale, Honor Oak, S.E. Every member of the Union is urged to do his utmost to bring pressure to bear on the Government so that the Conciliation Bill may become law this session, and members are urged to spend all the time they can possibly spare during the next week in lobbying at the House of Commons.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	892	2	10
H. W. Dickinson, Esq.	0	10	0
Miss M. M. Sheppard	1	0	0
Sydney Arnold, Esq.	0	4	0
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Miss E. B. Avery	0	5	0
The Hon. Mrs. E. Haverfield	1	1	0
W. B. Hart, Esq.	2	2	0
Miss F. Graham	1	1	0
Miss A. M. F. Sales	1	0	0
Miss M. S. Benton (towards fund for meeting expenses in connection with action brought against the very violent Liberals of Bradford)	0	10	6
Mrs. and Miss Wright (for Defence Fund of Mr. Hawkins)	1	10	0
Miss M. E. Sudd Brown (towards expenses of further appeal in Mr. Hawkins' Case)	1	0	0
S. Millard, Esq. (Special Collecting Sheet)	0	1	0
O. Faustlin, Esq., do.	0	2	6
A. H. Barlow, Esq., do.	0	1	0
E. M. Hare, Esq., do.	0	3	8
Membership fees	0	4	0
Total	£903	19	6

CHILDREN'S SUCCESSES.

W.S.P.U. children have been distinguishing themselves at the Clifton Eisteddfod. Joan and Angela Tuckett were first in recitation, the former, age 16, winning the gold medal and the latter (age 5) the bronze medal. Elaine Rogers was third in the adult class and her little sister Doreen second of the juniors. Mary Trafford was second in pianoforte playing.

The Wimbledon and District Scots Association, which was formed last year with a view to uniting Scottish people living in London in a study of their national literature, history, music and dancing, have made the conditions of membership the same for women as for men. "Scotswomen and Scotsmen being accredited," as their annual report says, "with an equal share of patriotic feeling and an equal desire for development."

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